

THE

# Nonconformist.

THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION.

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political element in our national institutions. In the first place, the abolition of religious tests in our two Universities, and in the colleges associated with them, even though the clerical fellowships still remain to be dealt with, must be regarded as an immense stride towards the legislative realisation of religious equality. The Parliamentary Session which has secured for us the Universities Tests Abolition Act, cannot be pronounced a barren one. Five years ago, it would have been looked upon as extraordinarily fruitful. The gain we may reasonably expect to obtain from it is vast—beyond the powers of moral calculation to determine. For a time, indeed, the practical changes which it may be counted upon to develop may be neither numerous nor striking; but, silently and surely, it will work an entire revolution in the tone of University culture, and, through it, of the more highly educated class throughout the kingdom. The mere fact that the two Universities have ceased to be denominational institutions, and have become in theory what we hope they will ere long become in fact, broadly and unreservedly national, will exercise a potent influence in weaning away those prejudices which have hitherto obstructed the formation of a sound public opinion in respect of politico-ecclesiastical matters. If we had nothing else to rejoice in as the fruit of the expiring session, the Universities Tests Abolition Act might well be prized as an adequate reward for all the exertions that have been put forth in the direction of religious equality.

But this is not the only gain of the session of 1871. In some sense, the motion for disestablishment, submitted on May 9, and rejected by so large a majority, promises even wider and more substantial results. It was the Parliamentary initiation of the principle and the object of the Liberation Society, in their entire breadth and extent. It quietly effected what required many years of preparation successfully to accomplish. It lifted a mere controversy up to the level of a project of legislation; and it did so without any accompanying detriment. It resembled a change of base of operations. It might have proved ruinous. It might have elicited circumstances which, for many years to come, would obstruct the further advance of the Liberation movement. The step then taken, was taken in full view of the adverse contingencies to which it was exposed. It was the most critical step that could be taken, but it was also imperatively necessary. Till the disestablishment and disendowment of the British churches yet in connection with the State should have taken its place as a Parliamentary question, it would have been vain to anticipate much further progress for it in public opinion. This session has witnessed the successful achievement of that great desideratum of the day, perhaps we may rather say, of the age. The work having been done, and done without unfortunate effects, those who looked upon it in prospect as premature, have since regarded it as timely. At any rate, a judgment has been made upon that ground from which the last operations against the union of Church and State must needs be conducted. This will give definiteness to all future efforts. We know what we have to do, and how we have to do it. Our end is fairly before us, and the way to it is direct, and sufficiently visible. No doubt, incredible exertions will have to be made before

the shout of victory is raised. But, at least, we are on level ground with the work which has to be done. We have crowned the ridge, which will enable us to use all the forces we have at command; and we have done so without loss. Under these circumstances, we can afford, without much serious concern, the defeat of Mr. Osborne Morgan's Burials Bill. That has been done this session, which was the necessary preliminary of all that has to be done in future sessions. The key of the position is now in our hands, and it cannot, therefore, be said that the session, with regard to politico-ecclesiastical subjects, has been one upon which we are unable to congratulate ourselves.

## ECCLESIASTICAL NOTES.

THE celebrated remonstrance addressed by some five thousand of the clergy to the Primate and bishops, requesting that the decision of the Privy Council in the Purchas case should not be enforced, has had the desired effect in intimidating the Episcopate. The mild rebukes by Archbishop Tait and Bishop Jackson of this incitement to evade the law must be regarded as so much official "bunkum," and the Ritualists have in vain striven to stir up their diocesans to institute another prosecution with the view of testing or modifying the late Judgment. In vain did Canons Liddon and Gregory ask the Bishop of London to arraign them. He has resolutely declined. Dr. Mackarness, the Liberal Bishop of Oxford, takes the same course. Three churchwardens of Buckingham have requested that prelate—not to prosecute, but—to "admonish" the vicar of Buckingham and his curates for standing in front of the altar during the prayer of consecration, and for other deviations from the order of Divine service prescribed by the Act of Uniformity. The complainants say that the Rev. W. F. Norris has been reminded of the illegality of his acts, and requested to discontinue them, but he refuses; in consequence of which, they aver, "some of the inhabitants and parishioners of the said parish are precluded by conscientious motives from attending Divine service and from partaking of the Holy Communion, and many others who continue to attend Divine service find their consciences much vexed." The bishop altogether refuses to take action. He declines to deal with isolated cases, and is not prepared to enforce virtual uniformity throughout the diocese which would do violence to some principles of toleration which have long been familiar to him—a very liberal sentiment for a bishop, but quite at variance with his official duties as a Church ruler. His lordship adds:—

I must at least have been assured that the general feeling and opinion of Churchmen approved such a course, before I could persuade myself to adopt it. These are general considerations; the case you have brought before me has further difficulties peculiar to itself. The present vicar of Buckingham is a clergyman of high character, moderate opinions, and strict fidelity in the discharge of his spiritual functions. I know few clergymen, even in this diocese, more conciliatory in conduct and more generally esteemed. It would be repugnant to all my notions of a bishop's duty to single out such a clergyman for censure, while the negligent and careless, for such unhappily are to be found, provoke no observation, and incur no attack.

To which the pithy reply of Mr. Small, the spokesman of the churchwardens, is "that all the acts complained of in the memorial have been declared to be illegal, one by the Court of Arches and the others by the highest Court of Appeal in ecclesiastical causes in this realm. One of the clergy of your diocese sets the law at defiance and your lordship refuses to interfere. Could the most bitter opponents of our Church desire it otherwise?" It appears, then, that the Purchas Judgment, whatever the prelates of the Anglican Church may say in their charges and letters, is to be treated as a dead letter. The Church Association has fought and won in vain.

That the Ritualists are quite content with the

## Ecclesiastical Affairs.

## THE SESSION OF 1871, ECCLESIASTICALLY VIEWED.

COMPARATIVE quiet in the House of Commons—not without an occasional struggle—not altogether without great achievements—has been the politico-ecclesiastical characteristic of the past session. Success has not attended some of the minor efforts of the Liberation movement—such, for example, as Mr. Osborne Morgan's Burials Bill, which was talked out while passing through committee; but, all things considered, the friends of religious equality have no reason to complain that the session has been unproductive of important and favourable results. We fear we cannot report satisfactorily of what we may describe as the ecclesiastical tone of the representative branch of the Legislature, at the present time. There cannot be a doubt, we think, that it has gradually become more lax since the passing of the Irish Church Act. We are not altogether surprised at this. It has to be borne in mind that a large number of Members were sent up to the House at the last general election, pledged to carry into effect a project which nothing but the exigencies of party and the political necessity of the time would have prevailed upon them to support. The principle which they found themselves compelled to affirm lifted them entirely out of the ordinary range of their political convictions, and subjected those convictions to a tension they were all but unable to bear. As soon, therefore, as the strain upon them ceased, it is not wonderful that they should gradually subside into their normal state. This, we need hardly say, is not one of very active interest in relation to politico-ecclesiastical questions. Nothing but the vigilance, and, in some cases, we may add, the importunity, of the Nonconformist sections of the constituencies, would have availed, we fancy, to counteract, even to a small extent, the reactionary tendencies of the views and sympathies of these Hon. Members. That they have not shown themselves in general hostile to further advances is probably due in many cases to the pressure put upon them from without. But it can hardly be said of them that their friendliness has assumed a decidedly active turn.

Notwithstanding, however, the cooling process to which their minds have been subjected, the session of 1871 will long be held in grateful remembrance by all those who heartily desire the disentanglement of the spiritual from the

present state of things is not surprising. The Purchas judgment seems to have had no other effect than to incite them to more glaring infractions of the law. Thus at Prestbury, a village near Cheltenham, we read of a celebration of "the feast of the Transfiguration on Sunday week, which is thus described:—

Forty candles were burning on and around the "altar," besides four more lighted before "the picture of Our Lady," which appears to be one of the chief decorations of the church. The vicar was "vested in a handsome silk chasuble, with a large Latin cross in blue on the back, blue being the colour of our Lady." A "Benedictus" and an "Agnus Dei" were interpolated in the Communion service, and "high mass" was performed in the Romanist manner, with all the accessories of incense, &c.

Yet we are told that the State Church—the bishops of which refuse to stir an inch to abate such nummeries—is the bulwark of Protestantism!

Though the Ritualists and High-Church party have every reason to be satisfied with the *status quo*, they will no doubt be roused to indignation at an act of Her Majesty's Government which has just come to light. It will be remembered that the Legislature of South Australia—a colony which does not enjoy the blessings of a State-Church—has repeatedly passed a bill for legalising marriage with a deceased wife's sister. Five times this has been done, and as often the Imperial Government, whether Liberal or Conservative, have advised Her Majesty to withhold the Royal Assent, because the bill does not harmonise with the law of the mother country. At length they have yielded. The Earl of Kimberley, in a despatch to the Governor of South Australia, announces that, "looking to the fact that bill nearly similar to this has passed the Colonial Legislature five times, and that this particular bill was passed by both Houses almost without opposition, and with other circumstances indicating a strong feeling in its favour, they are of opinion that it would not be right to resist further the wishes of the colony so clearly and repeatedly expressed." We congratulate the sturdy colonists on the removal of this grievance, which was even more serious on constitutional than social grounds. The Adelaide papers hint that the concession may have been due rather to the demonstrations at home against the Lords' rejection of the British measure, than to a sense of justice. But, be that as it may, the tardy decision of Her Majesty's Government in the case may be accepted as an omen that this Church-made restriction on marriage will ere long be removed at home as well as at the Antipodes, where "the deceased wife's sister," we are told by an Adelaide paper, "is now finally relegated to her natural sphere of private life, and henceforth will trouble the public with her grievances and disabilities no more."

The article which appeared in our columns a fortnight ago entitled "The Unguarded *Guardian*," has elicited the following response, which forms the closing paragraph in a paper on the subject of "School Fees":—

We observe that our article appears to have excited the wrath of a Nonconformist contemporary, and to have elicited some remarks upon ourselves probably intended to be facetious and certainly not calling for rejoinder, but not much of argument upon the matter, either to defend the cry of "concurrent endowment," or to meet the plain statement of the real facts of the case, which we then put forward. It is clear that, as we before said, the Education Act is to be given up, and its impartiality considered to be "a mistake;" that considerations of justice and economy are to be sacrificed to the "spirit of the time," and to the chances of an attack on "sectarianism;" that rights of conscience and freedom of parents are to be treated with ridicule, if they happen to stand in the way of Nonconformist dislike of Church Schools. Most of this we knew or suspected before; still it is as well to be "forewarned," and, we hope, to be "forearmed" also. It is quite true that fallacies, considered in themselves and their own intrinsic strength, have little power or life; but when they are taken up by an active and unscrupulous party, who use them simply as cloaks behind which to advance an important and energetic principle, then they may be galvanised into vitality long enough to do some permanent mischief.

This is characteristic of the *Guardian*, but not quite so fair as we expected. Our readers must decide for themselves whether our article was a relevant or successful reply to the *Guardian*. The imputation of jealousy is purely gratuitous. The reason why Nonconformists show their dislike of Church schools is because these institutions are partially supported by public, that is, by Nonconformist money. To say nothing of the building grants, *one-half* of the cost of maintaining these sectarian seminaries will, from the 1st of March last, be paid out of the Parliamentary grants. This being so, we object—though it may seem very preposterous on our part—but we do object to these schools fastening themselves, as far as is possible, upon the local rates also. Why should not Church schools in School Board districts, as well as those of the British and Foreign Society and Nonconformists in general, be

made over to the local boards? Is it not solely because their managers object to abandon their "sectarian" teaching? What that teaching is—whether it is calculated to promote true religion or a robust morality—may be gathered from the testimony of the official inspectors (all Churchmen, we believe) quoted by Mr. Alderman Mander, of Wolverhampton, in the letter we have copied elsewhere. This is the kind of thing ratepayers are called upon to subsidise in School Board districts, without allowing them an atom of control.

We insert elsewhere the last of six papers on the State-Church question with which we have been favoured by an "English Clergyman," who, though he writes anonymously, occupies, as we know, a responsible position. The writer has traversed a wide field, and has put forth, in his own clear and succinct way, arguments which are familiar to our readers and to all who take part on our side of the controversy. It is a remarkable coincidence that, from so different a standpoint, the writer should express views so nearly identical with those which are advocated by Nonconformists. We have reason to believe that a great part of what "An English Clergyman"—who is manifestly not a Ritualist—has said, would be endorsed by no small number of his brethren in the Establishment who, though silent, are biding their time.

#### AN ENGLISH CLERGYMAN'S HOLIDAY THOUGHTS ON ESTABLISHED CHURCHES.

##### VI. RESULTS OF DISESTABLISHMENT.

But what will become of us, if the Church is disestablished? Oh! I am ashamed to hear that question put. Is there not wealth enough in the great English Church; is there not Christian energy enough in her to carry the Gospel into every village and every hamlet as well as into every great city of the land? Of wealth I know there is enough; of energy I firmly believe there is enough. As a sincere and devoted son of that Church, as a clergyman of that Church, I answer that there is abundance of energy in her to carry out this great and holy work, and that the more she is freed from her present chains, the more will she find strength for her work. I would add that if there be not now that strength in her, then does she need indeed some movement which shall enable her to shake off her lethargy, and rise to the dignity and the height of her calling as a Christian Church. Besides, what have the United States of America done? Is it not a fact that whilst with all our immense ecclesiastical wealth the begging-box is always going round, and complaints are heard on every side that we need more money, in the United States, on the contrary, where no Establishment exists, provision for religious wants keeps much nearer to the growth of those wants than it does with us? Is it not a fact that in the great Transatlantic Republic, whenever new cities spring up with marvellous rapidity, there also Christian churches are immediately built and filled? Let those who need information on this point read the book of his travels in America recently published by one of Her Majesty's chaplains.

Our own colonies also are examples of what Free Churches can do. Does Canada want back her Established Church? Is Australia, or is New Zealand unable to do with Free Churches? Are these colonies more heathen than England? Are they no longer Christian lands because they have no Established Churches? Why cannot the Mother Country do what her own great daughter in America has done? Why cannot she do what her own colonies are doing? If there were any difference, the yet scarcely-formed colonies would seem to need the help of the law in religious matters more than the old country. Yet while she still is in leading strings, they can walk alone and with firmness. But of one thing you may be very sure—what men have seen done with such splendid results in America, what they have seen done with such fruit in our own colonies, they will surely do, sooner or later, here in England, and that all the more rapidly now that political power has passed so largely into the hands of the people themselves, as distinguished from aristocratic cliques.

The people of England will never believe, when once the question is agitated among them, that archbishops and bishops ought to hold the vast revenues which they now hold; they will never believe that it was intended that the successors of the Apostles and the Evangelisers of the world should be possessors of temporal wealth, holders of temporal titles. Once let these and such like points be brought persistently before the people of England, and they will soon grasp the full meaning and purport of them. Suppose a man like the late Mr. Cobden were to traverse the land, and do with re-

gard to the Establishment question what that remarkable man did for the free-trade question. It would be simply impossible that he should not rouse the feelings of the now enfranchised masses, and bring about the settlement of this question in a way adverse to the existence amongst us of a State-endowed Church. There might be, and there doubtless would be, a violent struggle—a great outburst of feeling on both sides. The disestablishment view of the question might not be successful at first. The Conservatives had a sweeping majority after a general election in the first days of the Anti-Corn Law agitation, but it did not save Protection. In like manner, a similar movement for religious equality must eventually end in the disestablishment of the English Church; and depend upon it, the extended political franchise under which we now live would make the accomplishment of the work quicker.

I know quite well that disestablishment and disendowment are separate questions, and I have no right to trespass further on your kindness for the purpose of discussing the disendowment point of the argument; but I myself believe that the two points of disestablishment and disendowment are so intimately connected, that you cannot practically separate them. The social aspect of the Establishment question, which I have already considered, is so closely and so entirely mixed up with the endowment question, that they cannot be separated—at least, I do not see my way to separating them. Moreover, the whole question of endowments, and of the right of the State in their regard, is rising up and demanding and beginning to receive attention. Consider the action of the Endowed School Commissioners. Consider again, what has been lately done with reference to our Universities; and if you regard the course of legislation in these two cases, you will see at once two things:—first, that the question of Church endowments cannot be ultimately put aside, or even adjourned for an indefinite period; secondly, that the principle on which the State will deal in the matter of them, has been already virtually settled. I have not touched the question of the Irish Church. I myself believe that the first step towards disestablishment and disendowment in England was logically taken when the English Church in Ireland was disestablished and partially disendowed; but even granting that the case of Ireland was exceptional—and in some respects I allow that it was exceptional—we have other signs and other guides as to the course of future legislation in the instances which I have just adduced.

And now, with many thanks to the *Nonconformist* for printing my "thoughts," and many apologies for so long trespassing on its readers' attention, let me very briefly allude, before I conclude, to two kinds of opposition which the Liberationists will have to meet, over and above what I may call the old State and Church opposition. The first opposition is represented, it seems to me, by the *Spectator* newspaper, more or less; the second, more or less, by the *Pall Mall Gazette*, and perhaps the *Saturday Review*. The *Spectator*, I confess, is a paper which I read with the utmost interest, and which I most truly honour. Now the *Spectator* on this question represents those who dream, as I think, of one great Broad National Church, which is to embrace with largest charity every shade almost of Christian thought. I say that those who dream of such a Church in England are under a delusion; but I go beyond this, I would not wish it to exist. I am sure it would do infinitely less for the nation, infinitely less for Christianity, than would the free working of the Free Churches, bound together by a more real, though outwardly not so apparent a bond, and respecting and reverencing one another. The formation of such a Church as is here dreamt of, would result not in vigorous thought and active energy, but in a Christianity toned down to negative colours, and washed out in a milk-and-water deluge of spurious charity.

The *Pall Mall Gazette* represents the side of refined scepticism. The present state of the Established Church is not an unfavourable state for such scepticism. Moreover, the *Pall Mall Gazette* does not like the free and rougher, yet truer and heartier, action of the masses. It likes "gentlemen." The Liberationists are vulgar—they come between the wind and the nobility of refined critics. Yet I do not think the atmosphere of the *Gazette* will prevail over much of England. The *Gazette* will have its own following, but more decided, more genial, and more powerful will be the policy which the masses of the English people will follow, when one day they are asked definitely at the polling-booths, "Shall all churches in England share alike, or will you have one dominant Church, and all others tolerated?"

They will answer that toleration is a word which is odious in such matters, that to talk of toleration implies superiority in those tolerating, inferiority in those tolerated; they will answer, "Set free the Established Church, and let her go forth to her work like all other Christian Churches amongst us, relying not on an arm of flesh, but on the truth of which she claims to be a witness, and on the energy and the fidelity with which she preaches it." And I say with all my heart and soul, "God speed the day when that answer shall be returned!"

P.S.—It is of course impossible within the comparatively limited compass of newspaper articles, even though these may be extended to some length, to do more than touch so great a question as that of the establishment of Christian Churches by law. Still I most surely ought not to have forgotten, when speaking of Established Churches, to allude to the Established Presbyterian Church of Scotland. Certainly it was no want of admiration for the Scotch people, so susceptible of the highest religious feeling, nor any want of respect for that great Church whose noble servant, John Knox, was the precursor of so many other good and holy preachers, which caused my silence. I must confess that it was purely inadvertence, an inadvertence really blameworthy in me. I do not see, however, that the Presbyterian Established Church of Scotland has gained anything from her legal alliance with the State. Her spiritual work in the land must have been as great, and assuredly to be traced, as that work is, to spiritual and not to secular influences, would have been still greater, had she been unburdened with a State alliance. She has not had to bear the scandal of rich and lordly bishops, and so far she has been less heavily weighted in the race than the sister and Episcopal Church in England; but the various disputes which have arisen in Scotland, and which still exist, concerning ministers' money and patronage, and other points, prove that a Presbyterian Church, any more than an Episcopal Church, does not gain by being legally established, that spiritual work in the one case as well as in the other is impeded by these politico-religious questions. But Scotland, by the wonderful birth of her own Free Church, when those noble-minded men came forth from the State Establishment on the question of patronage, and filled the whole country with an enthusiasm which astonished the world, has herself told us how great things a Free Church can do, unendowed by the State, unsupported, nay, opposed by it. Scotland has practically answered the State Endowment question by that event so memorable in the history of Christian Churches.

#### CHURCH TEACHING IN DENOMINATIONAL SCHOOLS.

In a further letter to the *Midland Counties Express*, Mr. Alderman Mander, of Wolverhampton, replies at some length to the question: Looking at the religious teaching given in the schools of the Church of England from a Churchman's point of view, is it of a substantial and satisfactory character?—

In attempting an answer to this question (says Mr. Mander), I shall cite the testimony of Her Majesty's inspectors of Church of England schools, as it is given in the reports of the Committee of Council on Education. Not to go back further than 1835, I find in that year the Rev. G. R. Moncrieff, inspector in Kent, writing as follows:—

In most schools a fair amount of Bible knowledge has been imparted, but the schools are few and far between in which I feel it has been taught and received in a religious and practical spirit. I confess to having often had, both here and in the north, the uncomfortable misgiving that the Scripture lesson is valued at its market price as the means of staving off a deduction from the grant.

The Rev. R. Temple, M.A., inspector in Cheshire, writing in 1867, says:—

With regard to the religious instruction, so far as an intellectual knowledge of the events, words, and meaning of the Holy Scriptures and Church catechism is concerned—it is the most satisfactory subject I examine in; but I observe in my notes that the schools are not many in which I say that the characters of the children are likely to receive permanent benefit from the religious teaching.

The Rev. Capel Sewell, inspector in Lincoln and Notts, in 1867, says:—

It will hardly be contended that such religious instruction as is given to meet your lordships' requirements has secured for the Church a firmer hold on her children than those religious bodies enjoy who have declined your lordships' recognition of this part of their teaching. If, therefore, it were found necessary or expedient to relieve the inspectors of their duty of inquiring into the religious instruction of Church of England schools, there is little cause to apprehend that the interests either of religion or the Church would be impaired.

I have not seen the report for 1868, but coming to the report for 1869, I find the Rev. J. R.

Blakiston, inspector in the counties of Leicester, Northampton, Rutland, and Warwick, saying:—

I have not found remarks more thoroughly confirmed by my own observation than the following extracts from the *Pall Mall Gazette*. "Is the knowledge at present imparted in Church schools to the children of Church parents, under the name of religious knowledge, a desirable acquisition? Does it tend to influence the future man or woman for his moral good? . . . Many times have I had to listen, sorrowfully enough, to disquisitions on the supreme importance of 'the religious element' in the education which our day-schools offer to the children of the poor; the said 'religious element' consisting in the repetition by rote of the drier formulæ, or the reading and learning of a passage of Scripture, it being a mere chance whether the teacher feels the slightest religious interest in the subject. Nothing stands more fatally in the way of a sound system of national education than the notion that there is the faintest religious culture realised by any process of this sort. The wonder literally is, when we consider how such children are taught religion, that the dimmest religious reverence survives."

From the report for 1870, just to hand (and which will repay the most attentive study), I extract as follows:—The Rev. H. W. Bellairs, M.A., H.M. inspector for Berks and Oxon, says:—

I feel obliged reluctantly to confess that the religious knowledge in the schools under my inspection is year by year growing less.

The Rev. J. Rice Byrne, inspector for Gloucester, Somerset, and Wilts, speaking of Gloucester, says:—

Denominational education has not succeeded here, as its advocates would desire. Were the appearance it here represents universal, it would deserve to be abolished.

The Rev. W. W. Howard, inspector for East and North Devon:—

I have long felt that the relations of the State to education ought to preclude denominational inspection; and I shall be the more content to forego this part of my work, because I know that what is called religious instruction is in so many schools dry, and hard, and lifeless; too often given without due reverence, and having little influence on the children who receive it.

The Rev. S. Price, M.A., inspector in Mid Wales:—

In many "annual grant schools" at present the amount of religious instruction given is exceedingly small; in some "simple inspection schools," the vanishing point has been reached, and yet these style themselves Church of England schools, and religion is supposed to be fairly taught in them. It will be far preferable for it to be distinctly known and understood that it is not taught; measures will then be assuredly taken to supply the deficiency. Even in schools where conscientious teachers devote time and attention to the subject, it is necessarily regarded more as an intellectual exercise than as a means to make the children wise unto salvation.

I cannot resist the temptation to reproduce the following by the same gentleman, given in a footnote:—

In many schools, where the children in the first-class know the Catechism perfectly well in one sense, if a slight variation be made in the wording of the questions, they are at once at a loss as to the answer which ought to be given. In the second and third classes it not unfrequently happens that, though the children can repeat the Creed simultaneously, and perhaps individually, if they are made to write it on their slates, it is proved that they only repeat a jumble of sound.

And he gives the following specimens of the composition of a second class in an Annual Grant country school, where the children "rehearsed the articles of their belief" at a swinging pace: "seflend ended poshed spaled was chrusned fil ded and bired, he did sunded unto hell." "Suffer under pent penches pailet was cruesy fared dead and baried he sended unto hell." "Sefflend wender ponchad pilat was cruesy fird ded and buread he asended unto hell." "It is not often," he adds, "that such a gross case as this happens, but the manner in which the Lord's Prayer, or Creed, is written out frequently shows that the children have no distinct ideas of the meaning of the words or sounds they have been taught to utter."

I do not wish to convey the impression that all or even most of the reports are of the character of those selected; some speak much more favourably of the religious teaching given in the schools they inspect; but, always excepting individual schools, there is scarcely one of them that does not convey the impression that that teaching is unsatisfactory. If the extracts I have given so far refer exclusively to Church of England schools, it is because the references to religious teaching in Wesleyan and Dissenting schools are very slight—in the report for 1870 there are none at all—and because the present question concerns the payment of fees which will be divided almost exclusively between the churches of England and Rome.

But, after all, we do not need Her Majesty's inspectors to tell us of the unsatisfactory character of the religious instruction given in the "Church" schools of this country. The condition of the labouring population, a large proportion of whom have undergone this religious instruction, is a silent and unimpeachable witness to its general worthlessness. Every one acquainted with the agricultural districts will confirm as still true the description of them given by the *Record* a few years ago:—

The immorality which prevails among the agricultural

labourers can scarcely be exaggerated. A chaste marriage in many parts is an exception. Decency is almost unknown, and the laws of modesty are violated with reckless effrontery. Hand to hand also with this impurity is a deep-seated ignorance of the most vital questions. No one who has not taken the trouble to investigate into the matter can conceive how little the vast body of our poor know of the most simple religious subjects.

Verily, Her Majesty's inspectors and daily observation point in the same direction, and move us to ask what it is we are going to do, in supporting denominational schools, but to prolong the reign of that very system which has so entirely failed to prevent or remove these deplorable evils.

The extracts given above will serve to show what kind of religious teaching we shall get for our money if the future should resemble the past. But is this probable? Past results have been realised under a careful system of inspection—a system in which "failure in this subject operates according to its extent in reducing the grant or causing it to be withheld altogether." Future results will have to be realised under a *regime* in which it will be no part of the duties of Her Majesty's Inspectors to inquire into any instruction given in religious subjects, or to examine any scholar in religious knowledge; and in which no amount of attention given to religious teaching will have any direct effect in increasing the Parliamentary grant. It is true that diocesan inspection may to some extent replace that of the Government, and in cases not a few this will be reinforced by a sense of responsibility on the part of the teacher; but when it is remembered that the requirements of the Committee of Council in reference to secular attainments will certainly become year by year more exacting, it will be perceived that the prospects are small indeed of an improvement either in the quantity or the quality of that religious instruction which constitutes the speciality of the denominational school, and which all are agreed is the most important part of education.

For I am well persuaded that *all are agreed*—even those who are personally most indifferent to it—as to the supreme importance of early religious training. Certainly no one can suppose Dissenters to be indifferent to it. Their dissent has itself always been due to the strength of their religious convictions. And it is precisely because of these convictions that they protest against a system of religious education which, after some sixty years' trial, produces such miserable results as Her Majesty's Inspectors describe. Their protest does not, indeed, rest there; it lies against the way in which this all-important subject of religious education has been dealt with in this land during a period reaching far back into its history; in other words, against the treatment which the children of this nation have received at the hands of the national or "mother" Church during the long period that they have been entrusted to her. What that treatment has been must be passed in review, however briefly, or the consideration of the great subject of these letters would be quite incomplete. Sufficient to say now that to that Church has been entrusted the most sacred and solemn of all duties—the Christian instruction of a nation's youth, and the directing and inspecting of their godly upbringing. This trust she has always claimed—claimed as her exclusive prerogative, ever regarding the Dissenter as an intruder, a trespasser on her peculiar province. She claims it still of divine right by virtue of her Apostolic descent and her exclusive possession of the keys of knowledge. The claim has been legally recognised. The State has confided its children to her from earliest infancy, and for the purposes of the trust has granted her revenues, and invested her with *prestige* such as perhaps no other Church ever possessed. Is it unreasonable or inopportune to inquire how she has fulfilled her trust? Let her show us a virtuous, enlightened, and happy population, and no doubt the State will gladly confirm her in the possession of her revenues and her power, however the sectaries may object. But where in town or country are we to look for it? Who is there that, contemplating the condition of our people morally and religiously, will say that the establishment has realised what was expected of her? Who that knows anything of the fearful ignorance and depravity which characterised past generations, and which seethes still beneath the gloss of present civilisation, will not be impressed with a sense of her lamentable failure? The question, then, which forces itself upon the mind is, are not 330 years sufficiently long for a trial? Shall not those be listened to who have all along denied her claims and lamented her continuous failure, and who have ever declared, as they now declare, that the system which has thus failed cannot but fail, has in it inherent and constitutional defects which render success morally impossible?

#### THE WESLEYAN CONFERENCE.

The proceedings of the Conference were brought to a close on Friday evening. In the afternoon the Conference considered the reports of the Westminster Chapel Fund and of the Metropolitan Chapel Fund. During the last year 26,000/- had been raised. Six grants had been made of 2,000/- each to six large chapels, and sites had been secured for the erection of ten more. Thanks were presented to Sir Francis Lycett, who, by his offer of 50,000/-, had given such an impetus to this fund. The president was appointed to preside at the next Irish Conference. At 7.45 p.m. the president

announced that they had no other question before them, and called upon the secretary to read the journal. The thanks of the Conference were presented to the ministers in Manchester and the surrounding circuits for the arrangements so successfully made for the accommodation of the Conference. The thanks of the Conference were also presented to those who had afforded such generous hospitality to the ministers attending the Conference.

We note one or two of the recent incidents of general interest that have occurred at the meetings of the Conference:—

The Rev. W. Morley Punshon was unanimously elected president of the next Wesleyan Conference in Canada. In acknowledging his appointment Mr. Punshon said he must return to recover his voice, for he had lost it by his labours in this country. He hoped to return to England in two years.

At one of the meetings it was decided to establish a Home Missionary Organisation for London. The duties of the missionaries will be to preach in the open air, in cottages, and hired rooms, and to visit the hospitals and workhouses.

In replying to the address of the English to the Irish Conference, Dr. Scott, of Ireland, observed that the education question was one of their difficulties, and he hoped their English brethren would bear with them and not increase their difficulties. It would be a great misfortune to Ireland if the education of the country came to be controlled by the Ultramontane party. Dr. Rice replied by assuring Dr. Scott that the English Wesleyans would resist the designs of the Irish Ultramontanists, upon which Dr. Scott stated that the Ultramontanists quoted in their own favour from Dr. Rigg's inaugural addresses. Dr. Rice retorted that the extracts must be garbled. This brought up Mr. Arthur, who told Dr. Rigg that the Ultramontanists would not care for Dr. Rigg's abuse of them so long as he took an oar and rowed in the same boat with them. At the close of this discussion the Conference passed a resolution to the effect that, in view of apprehended action in reference to a new Catholic University in Ireland, power is entrusted to the president to take such measures as may be considered necessary to prevent, if possible, such a calamity.

During the discussion of the affairs of Methodist literature, Dr. Waddy expressed himself very strongly against some of the phraseology in the Liturgy of the Church of England, and which Liturgy is used in many Wesleyan chapels, especially in London. He contended that a great deal of the phraseology to which he referred was a shelter for many heresies, especially for those of Rome. The Methodists, he said, ought to have a Liturgy of their own, which should be shorter and more in harmony with the genius of the Methodist people than that used by the Church of England.

Perhaps the most exciting resolution submitted to the consideration of the Conference was one introduced by the Rev. W. Arthur. It had reference to the admission of laymen into the Conference proper. Hitherto their sphere has been limited to the committees of review, but a desire seems to be springing up in certain quarters that the committees of review should be given up, and that the laymen should form part of the Conference, and it is remarkable that in favour of this change a pamphlet has recently been published, having for its author the well-known Methodist Conservative, Mr. T. P. Bunting, son of the late Dr. Bunting. The laymen have already a great deal of power in Methodism; in fact, the Wesleyans have now all the evils of lay delegation without any credit for it, and while privately and indirectly the laymen have enormous power in the actual Conference, the Conference itself is still subjected to whatever disadvantages and discredit may arise from its meeting with closed doors. Mr. Arthur, in common with some others, seems inclined to open the Conference doors to the laity, and so destroy the prejudice which finds its justification in the forms more than in the realities of the Conference. The following resolution upon the subject was moved by the Rev. W. Arthur, and seconded by the Rev. H. W. Holland:—

That the committee appointed to consider the constitution of committees of review be instructed to consider whether, having regard to our established principles, it is practicable, and, if so, whether it is expedient, to extend those provisions of our constitution in virtue of which in our district meetings our laity share in the management of our temporal affairs so as to secure their attendance at the annual meeting of our Conference for the same purpose, and to make such suggestions in regard to this subject as in the judgment of the committee it may be desirable for the Conference to take into consideration.

Several of the ministers urged that the resolution had come upon them suddenly, and they were not then prepared for its consideration. It was suggested that the resolution had better be withdrawn for the present, and Mr. Arthur agreed to withdraw it.

The Rev. W. Arthur and the Rev. G. Perks were appointed delegates from the English Conference to the next General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in America.

At present and for a long time past there has been a usage or by-law in Methodism which hinders a minister from remaining more than six years continuously in one town. Dr. Rice brought forward a motion to set this usage aside, but the motion was rejected by a large majority.

Many of the leading ministers have already engaged to take shares in the proposed limited liability company for the insurance of Connexional trust property only against loss by fire. The success of the project is now morally certain. The

guarantee fund required is 20,000/., and more than 12,000/ have already been subscribed for it.

Vote by ballot is an essential part of the Wesleyan mode of election to office. The chairmen of districts and the President of the Conference are elected by ballot, and this method of election is extending in Methodism. The heads of departments, such as Education, Home Missions, Foreign Missions, Collegiate tutors, &c., have hitherto been elected by hand voting, but this method is to be discontinued. After considerable discussion and some very decided opposition Dr. Rigg's motion was negatived by a considerable majority.

The Rev. Luke Wiseman, the new Conference secretary, has discharged his duties with much quiet ability, and the next Conference, which is to be held in London, will in all probability place Mr. Wiseman in the presidential chair.

#### "THE CURE OF SOULS BY PURCHASE."

Under this heading "An Investing Contributor" gives in the *Daily News* a lively sketch of his experience in negotiating for the sale of an advowson for the behoof of "Meekskip," the penniless curate of his parish, who is engaged to his daughter. After consulting his lawyer, "Old Biber," he runs up to London to see a clerical agent on the subject, and thus reports his experience:—

I found him as pleasant and business-like a little gentleman as one could wish to meet. The first-floor of a London house, the ground-floor of which is occupied by a shop—this is where I found my agent. A deaf clergyman, in what used to be called a Puseyite waistcoat, a white tie, and coat and trowsers of appropriate colour and cut, cannons against me as I reach the door. "I want to see Mr. Blank" (the agent), he remarks to me interrogatively and apologetically, for through not hearing well he had turned round and trodden on my toes. He put his hand to his ear to catch my reply, so I shouted, "The very thing I've come here myself to do!" whereupon a door opened, and we were both invited to enter. Not into the presence of the agent, but into a counting-house, in which several clerks were busy upon ledgers and journals; and where printed bills of the livings on sale hung from the walls, exactly as other bills hang at the Auction Mart or Garraway's. The chamber is divided by a wooden partition, behind which the clerks are busy as I have said, while the remainder of it is used as a waiting-room. We both send in our names to the agent, who is in an adjoining room, the clergyman with great skill handing in his name before mine to ensure priority, though we really came in together; after which we take our seats and look about us. "Curacy Department" is printed in large black letters on one side of the wooden division, then comes a door marked "Private," and then the words, "Exchange Department."

The agent's engagement does not last long, and while the deaf clergyman is with him I ask for a printed list of the livings which are in the market now. A pamphlet consisting of thirty-five closely-printed pages is handed me, and I proceed to con this over. The study becomes so fascinating that I fervently hope the deaf clergyman may have difficulty in persuading the agent he is not disqualified by his infirmity for the cure of souls, and that his interview may be prolonged. "Population only 100, neighbourhood noted for its extreme salubrity, income about 120/ a year, price of presentation, 500/":—this is an epitome of the first entry in my pamphlet; but there is no rectory-house, and the whole thing doesn't seem quite good enough for the man who is to marry my daughter. I fix upon 3,000/ as my limit, so the next is far beyond me, being 5,500 guineas, and yielding a net income, "chiefly from glebe," of 650/ a-year. But it would weary you if I were to go through the advertisements one by one; or to attempt to describe the anxious care with which, for Madge's sake, I compared one with another. I had to balance such things as "population 300, coach-house, stable, harness-room, loose-box, large walled garden, conservatory, and good supply of water" against such tempting explanatory foot-notes as, "This preferment was purchased by one of the colleges for a Fellow, some eight years since, and it is now being sold at the same price, allowing simply for the expenses of conveyance, as was given for it at that time, when the incumbent (now seventy-eight) was only seventy years old." "No poor," was a recommendation in one case; "single duty" in several. "Immediate possession," and "there is every prospect of immediate possession, incumbent being seventy-one years of age and very infirm," were added as riders in others. "The incumbent is fifty-two or fifty-three years of age, but his life is a very bad one," was a statement which gave the rectory-house, "not in good repair," gloomy associations, and made me turn with a sigh of relief to the next page, where "the neighbourhood offers very good society, with plenty of fishing, hunting, &c., combined with the assurance of 'no chapel,'" seemed much more eligible—though, for that matter, Meekskip, poor fellow, is no sportsman, and would, I fancy, rather like a chapel to convert.

I had read thus far, when the door opened and a head popped in. "Has a deaf clergyman come here?" its owner asked. "Yes," answered a clerk, laconically. "Is he with Mr. Blank?" "Yes." "All right; only wanted to know," and the head disappeared—as I thought chuckling at the prospect of commission. A lanky young man in a straw hat, shooting-jacket, and patent-leather shoes—a young man who looked far more like boating than preaching—sauntered in leisurely and asked for the agent. He was engaged, and this gentleman (myself) was waiting; was it anything the clerk could attend to? It was about a curacy. London and a good part of London essential. The vacancy at Chelsea required explanation. "What sort of people lived in Chelsea? was Chelsea part of Belgravia? were the dwellers in it of the upper classes?" It was the clerk's opinion that Chelsea was the favourite district for what he would term the upper middle class of church-goers, which he specified, to prevent the possibility of mistake, as "professionals, artisans, tradesmen, and that class."

I was beckoned for at this juncture; the deaf clergyman had departed by another door, and I found myself face to face with the clerical agent. My first feeling was one of gratitude to him for not having made him

self up like a clergyman; and for being so straightforward and business-like. A brisk, fair gentleman, with a prepossessing manner—that's what the agent is. He is well dressed and well jewelled, and carries a single-stone diamond and a full-sized bloodstone signet-ring on the same hand. My first thought is that I once met a swell stockbroker very like him; my second that he belongs to the race which Mr. Disraeli maintains furnish the master-spirits of the world. "Not being a parson." I begin with a smile, "I'll explain my business in two minutes"—which I do. I learn directly what 3,000/ will buy. If I want the money to be settled on my girl, I can have an advowson of 250/ a year for Meekskip, with a house, only I mustn't ask for any of the home counties—Kent or Essex, for example—they're more, naturally. If, on the other hand, I'll be satisfied with buying a presentation, or, in other words, a living for Meekskip, which will terminate with his life, why I can get 400/ a year. This is the outside value, the agent warns me, and the income will be rather less than more, but I need not trouble myself about the young people having to wait in either case if I once resolve upon the investment.

"The great object of the owners of Church property," my friend adds pleasantly, "is to get as much money for it as possible, and you'll find that after you've deducted 100/ or 120/ a year for your young friend's services, you'll have, in addition to a residence, about five per cent. for your money if you buy an advowson, and from seven to eight per cent. if you buy a presentation. An advowson is freehold, and can be settled on the lady and the offspring of the marriage—that is, can be invested in the names of trustees and be sold for their benefit on Mr. Meekskip's death. A presentation will give you a better rate of interest, even after you've deducted a reasonable sum for the clergyman's annual premiums for life assurance; but then, you see, you can't compel him to keep his payments up; so for absolute security for the wife there's nothing like an advowson." "Doesn't the price of a presentation depend upon the present holder's age?" I asked, for I didn't see the fun of negotiating for something which would keep the young people waiting, and inflict upon us all the nuisance of a long engagement. "Far less than you'd suppose," was the urbane reply; "besides, in any presentation you bought, sir, I'd arrange for immediate possession." "How could that be managed?" "Quite easily—in fact, the commonest thing in the world. The present holder resigns. You place the money in your solicitor's hands. Your solicitor sees the vendor's solicitor, and if the resignation doesn't take place, why the cash is not parted with. I've a pretty little place here (hands me a photograph of rectory, upon which I notice there is a tolerable stock of such photographs on mantelpiece and desk), but it's rather beyond your figure. It has a nice church, too, in capital repair (hands me a photograph of church)—perhaps if you could make it guineas we could effect the purchase." I ask about the incidental expenses connected with the transfer of this kind of property, and find it to be usual for the vendor to pay the agent's charges, so that the lawyer's bill ("about 30/ or 40/ according to circumstances") is all that will fall upon me. I've learnt almost as much as I want to know by this time, and the agent and myself shake hands with each other, mutually pleased, I promising at his request "to refer to this interview when I write." I brought the book with the list of advowsons and presentations "in stock" away with me; and Madge, Meekskip, and myself shall have many a good pore over it, I promise you, before deciding. Old Biber wanted to make me believe before I came up that buying or selling church preferment is Simony, and that Simony is a crime; but I flatter myself I return fully able to convince him of the obsolete absurdity of his views. This copious printed list of livings on hand; the number of respectable applicants (I have omitted half-a-dozen interruptions in our interview, from cards being sent in, people waiting, and so forth) who were waiting; and the unmistakable air of prosperous and extensive business which environs the clerical agent's place—all put Simony out of the question. I shall buy my future son-in-law an advowson (freehold), just as I shall buy my daughter her trousseau, and having once got it, paid for it, and settled it, shall have the satisfaction of knowing it to be as permanent a provision as if the money were in the funds, while Meekskip's social position as rector will be far better than as a poor curate who can't preach, with a small additional income from his wife.

#### THE CATHOLIC SCHISM IN GERMANY.

The old Roman Catholic Committee in Vienna has published a programme showing the objects for which it is labouring. The following are the principal points of this document:—"The Commune must again be given the right of electing its own priests. The clergy should have fixed salaries, sufficient in amount to keep them respectably. Celibacy must be abolished; every Catholic priest should have the right of marrying, as in the first ten centuries of Christianity. Cathedral chapters should be abolished. The mass should be read in German or any other language usually spoken by the congregation. All the theological branches of education in the seminaries should be taught in German. All masses, marriages, funerals, &c., should be performed gratuitously; the clergy should be compensated for the loss of their fees on this account. All pomp or inequality in funerals should cease so far as the religious ceremony is concerned; one priest only should perform it to the poor and the rich. Auricular confession should be abolished. All church holidays and processions which draw away the people from their work should cease. The adoration of images should be discouraged. The deceptions practised by means of relics, &c., should be punished by the State, and every effort should be made entirely to exterminate this evil."

One of the most hopeful signs in this Church struggle is the formation of Old Catholic committees in various parts. These "Vereins" have been formed in the Rhine district, at Cologne, Bonn, Wiesbaden, Essen, Crefeld, Witten, &c. That at Cologne has had a very successful meeting, when

the statutes of the society were settled and signed. The objects of the organisation are thus defined :—

(1) Generally to co-operate with all energy (to bring about) that that which is essential, immutable, and imperishable, of the Catholic faith, be clearly distinguished from that which belongs only to its historic development, and be purified from the obscurations which in course of ages it has suffered at the hands of Papalism, and that its expression be obtained in forms, such as are required by a consciousness developed by a great religious history, and in this manner be truly preserved and kept alive for our time ; (2) especially, however, and first of all, by all means which are at their command, permitted by Christian morality and the laws of the State, if necessary (eventually), by the organisation of a Cologne Alt-Catholic congregation, to obtain, if possible, that the right of believers holding fast to the legitimate standpoint of the Church to the means of grace in Christ, which (right) can in no way be destroyed by the publication of unjust and invalid censures, as also the right of those priests affected by the censures in question to dispense those means of grace, may be exercised by both as soon as possible.

Bonn is to be the head-quarters of the Rhineish Alt-Catholic vereins, and monthly meetings are to be held there and correspondence carried on therefrom with the other organisations of the same body in South Germany, Austria, and Switzerland. The great meeting of the party is fixed for September 24th, 25th, and 26th, at Munich, and a preliminary gathering for September 5th, at Heidelberg. In this manner Jesuit drill is to be confronted with Catholic organisation.

The *New Prussian (Cross) Gazette* points out that the proffered help of the Dutch Jansenists will be of immense value to the Old Catholics. It will especially give a natural solution to the question so important for Catholics, where to obtain bishops, as the *successio episcopalis* has never ceased among the Jansenists. They have still the Archbishop of Utrecht and the Bishops of Harlem and Deventer.

A Munich correspondent of the *National Zeitung* says that while the inhabitants of the towns may view the ecclesiastical crisis with indifference, and calmly await the issue, those who live in the country are exposed to an organised system of tyranny such as has not existed for centuries. In proof of this he relates the following incident. A landed proprietor near Passau, who employs forty-three servants and farm-labourers, was lately denounced from the pulpit because he was known to have copies of two newspapers obnoxious to the clerical party, and all who valued the salvation of their souls were admonished to quit his service. The gentleman in question entered an action against the clergyman, who, on being condemned, appealed to a higher court. Before the decision was given, however, he repeated the offence. The prosecutor was desirous of bringing a second action against him, but on seeking for witnesses he could find no one who would confess that he knew anything of the matter.

#### CHURCH AND STATE IN AMERICA.

In the debate on Mr. Miall's disestablishment motion, Mr. Thomas Hughes, M.P., was unable to obtain a hearing, and subsequently he addressed a letter to the *Spectator*, contending that the condition of things in the United States was not at all conclusive in favour of the separation of Church and State. Dr. Joseph P. Thompson, an able and distinguished Congregational minister of New York, has been induced to take the matter up against Mr. Hughes in one or two letters addressed to that gentleman. The first, which appeared in the *New York Independent* of July 27, is as follows :—

To Thomas Hughes, Esq., M.P.

Sir,—The appreciative regard which you have shown for the people of the United States gives an exceptional importance to any utterance of yours concerning their political, educational, and religious institutions. In a recent article in the *Spectator* you give "a few facts as to the state of things in the United States" in the relations of Church and State, which you interpret as showing that we in this country have "failed to reach the absolute separation of things secular and things holy." Thus you would break the force of the argument from the example of the United States in favour of the complete divorce of the State and Church. With the particular question of the disestablishment of the Church of England, as raised by Mr. Miall's motion, I do not propose to meddle; but the points of American precedent and experience which you have alleged in opposition to that motion do not, as it seems to me, warrant the construction which you have put upon them, and, therefore, knowing your candour of judgment and your superiority to the mere spirit of controversy, I respectfully ask your attention to what I conceive to be the real import of the facts which you have quoted.

Applying English modes of thought and the ecclesiastical language of England to the loose newspaper report of church matters in this country, you have unconsciously confounded things which are entirely distinct. Thus, in a case of church property, you mistake the decision of a civil court upon a question of trust or contract for an interference with or a supervision over the Church as a church by the civil tribunal. Now there exists in England, among the Congregationalists, a "Chapel Building Society," which gives aid toward building chapels upon the security of a "trust deed," which defines the faith and worship to be maintained by the congregation occupying the premises. If a congregation thus aided should depart from the faith or order thus prescribed, the "Chapel Building Society," or Mr. Samuel Morley, or Mr. E. Miall himself, as a principal donor, might bring a suit for the recovery of misappropriated trust funds, just as if the chapel were a hospital or school. The civil court must of necessity decide such a question; and the plaintiff could not be charged with invoking the arm of the State to enforce Congregationalism, or to establish this form of church communion as part of the law of the land. Should two parties

arise within the chapel itself, each claiming to hold and use the building by virtue of the deed, the civil court might decide the question of title, without verging in the least toward civil dictation in ecclesiastical affairs, or toward a union of Church and State. The case of Mr. George H. Stuart, in Philadelphia, was analogous to this. You say "the case appears to have taken the form of a property suit," but only in that form could the civil court have taken cognisance of it, and it did take cognisance of it in precisely the same way in which it would take cognisance of a case in which two rival boards should claim to represent an insurance or railway company under one and the same charter. The principle that here applies was laid down by the Lord Chancellor in the case of *Forbes v. Eden*, on appeal from the Court of Sessions in Scotland, decided in the House of Lords in 1867—to wit, "That no civil court could take cognisance of the rules of a voluntary religious society made for the regulation of its own affairs, except so far as they related to collateral questions affecting the disposal of property." This is not a State-Church principle.

The first amendment to the constitution of the United States declares that "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof." A judicial construction has been put upon this article, which provides that "the legislature may enact laws more effectually to enable all sects to accomplish the great objects of religion, by giving them corporate rights for the management of property," etc.—(See *5 Cranch*, 43.)

Such corporate rights could only be derived from the legislature; and questions of property arising under such acts of incorporation must of necessity be decided by the civil courts. The Constitution of the State of New York in 1777 ordained (Art. 30) that the "free exercise and enjoyment of religious profession and worship, without discrimination or preference, shall forever hereafter be allowed in this state to all mankind." But, in entire consistency with this, the legislature of 1784 passed an act to enable religious denominations to appoint trustees who should be a body corporate, for the purpose of taking care of the temporalities of their respective congregations.

Either I have misapprehended your use of the term "ecclesiastical court," in your reference to the case of the Rev. C. E. Cheney, of Chicago, or the term has misled you with regard to the constitution and powers of such a court. You say, "Such institutions (as ecclesiastical courts) are indispensable even in Illinois." But the State does not create such courts, does not provide for them in its constitution, does not prescribe by statute for the exercise of their functions, does not enforce their decisions by civil penalties, nor look to them to interpret any law of the land. The only way in which the State can take cognisance of such courts is when their decisions affect the rights of persons as citizens, or the rights of property, and an action is brought in a civil court to defend or recover such rights. In the case of Mr. Cheney the ecclesiastical court which pronounced upon him the sentence of deposition from the ministry was simply and purely a court convened by his bishop under a canon of the Protestant Episcopal Church. The State of Illinois knows nothing of such a canon nor of such a court, did nothing to create either; and, so far from "such institutions being indispensable," the State would exist in its integrity and perform all its functions though no ecclesiastical court should ever be constituted within its borders. This ecclesiastical court had no other relation to the state of Illinois than a masonic lodge would have in enforcing its modes of discipline against a recusant member.

It should be borne in mind that many terms are retained in our law language from old English precedents which have entirely lost their original significance. Thus we have "probate" courts, or in some States the "surrogate"—terms which might suggest to you some ecclesiastical significance quite foreign to their meaning, as in use in the United States. Such courts and offices have no functions in relation to Church affairs, and do not in any way represent an ecclesiastical constitution of the State.

The case of Mr. Cheney is exactly parallel to that of Mr. Forbes, just cited. In Scotland the Episcopal Church is not established; it exists, in the eye of the law, purely as a voluntary association. Mr. Forbes, minister of an Episcopal congregation at Buntingford, omitted certain portions of the Book of Common Prayer. For this ecclesiastical offence the Primus of the Episcopal Church in Scotland silenced him; and, when the case came before the House of Lords, the Lord Chancellor declared that "the appellant [Forbes] had not shown that he had sustained any injury for which a civil court could give redress"; and toward the Episcopal Church in Scotland the House of Lords could only be a civil court.

Mr. Cheney applied to the civil court for an injunction restraining his bishop from the act of deposition, on the ground that this would deprive him of his right to earn his livelihood in his calling; but this application, when carried by appeal before the Supreme Court of Illinois, was denied, upon the ground that the case did not call for the interference of the court. Mr. Cheney now defies the authority of his bishop, not under cover of the civil court, but because his particular congregation stand by him in his exceptional attitude. If some of the vestry of Christ Church should bring an action before the civil tribunal upon the ground that the property in the church edifice is perverted from its stipulated uses, the court might hear and decide such a cause, purely as a question of interpretation, affecting the rights of property. In the suit which Mr. Cheney actually brought, neither party rested its case upon any theory of an established religion. The party of the bishop objected to any interference by the State in matters ecclesiastical; and Mr. Cheney's counsel argued that an ecclesiastical tribunal is purely a voluntary association, founded upon contract, and when such a tribunal is guilty of the infraction of public or private rights the civil courts should vindicate such rights, "as in case of the violation of other contracts." Neither party alleged any connection of Church and State, nor any principle looking toward such connection, as the ground of its appearing before a civil tribunal. The broad principle held in the United States is that "the civil tribunals possess no authority whatever to determine on ecclesiastical matters, or questions of heresy, or what is orthodox in mat-

ters of belief. The courts cannot interfere in Church affairs in any manner, except to correct misappropriation of trust property or funds."

I trust, sir, that I have now made clear the distinction between civil and ecclesiastical courts in the United States. The latter possess no civil authority whatever; the former no authority over questions of faith or ritual.

You also seem to confound the recognition of religious beliefs in some of our constitutions with the notion of an established religion. Mr. Cooley, in his treatise on "Constitutional Limitations," says: "He who shall examine with care the American constitutions will find nothing more fully or more plainly expressed than the desire of their framers to preserve and perpetuate religious liberty, and to guard against the slightest approach towards inequality of civil or political rights, based upon differences of religious belief. These constitutions have not established religious toleration merely, but religious equality." The full discussion of this point I must reserve for another letter. I am, sir, with high consideration, most truly yours,

JOS. P. THOMPSON.

New York, July 12th, 1871.

CHURCH-RATES.—At the City of London Union, on Tuesday, a letter was read from the collector of St. Leonard, Bromley, demanding 30*l.* for church-rates. The communication was ordered to lie on the table.

THE EXPLORATION OF PALESTINE.—The United States have taken up the subject of the exploration of Palestine in earnest, and it is decided that the important work should be divided: England to take the west of the River Jordan, and they the east. The exploration would take about four years, and 4,000*l.* each year would be required.

THE DEANERY OF ST. PAUL'S.—In connection with the vacant deanery of St. Paul's many eminent names are mentioned, amongst them being Dr. Mozley, the Regius Professor of Divinity at Oxford; Dr. Miller, of Greenwich; Dean Goulburn, Dr. Bright, and Dr. Vaughan, of the Temple. No final decision has been arrived at as to Dr. Mansel's successor.

THE CHURCH AND THE POOR.—At the consecration of a new church in Cheetham-hill, on Thursday, the Bishop of Manchester expressed his alarm at the fact that more of the poor do not attend the Church of England in Lancashire. His lordship hopes the time may come when our churches will be open more frequently, and when not only ordained ministers but willing-hearted laymen may assist in the services without frightening the minister or the bishop, and without being told that they are doing things unlawful.

"S. G. O." AND HIS BISHOP.—The following story is told of the Hon. and Rev. Sidney Godolphin Osborne (the "S. G. O." of the *Times*). He was lately cited to the visitation of the Bishop of Salisbury at Blandford. He wrote to the right rev. prelate to say that it was no doubt the bishop's duty to "visit" him, and if his lordship would do so he would be very happy to receive him, but that it was not his duty to visit the bishop in another man's parish, and he respectfully declined to do so.

"RELIGIOUS DIFFICULTY" turned up at the meeting of the General Purposes Committee of the Birmingham Board of Guardians on Monday. A tailor in the town having applied to have an orphan in the workhouse apprenticed to him, a question arose as to whether the boy was a Protestant or a Roman Catholic. It appeared that the lad did not know the distinction, and after some discussion the application was refused. In another case, a Jewish hairdresser applied for a Protestant apprentice, and on the question being put to the vote, this application was also refused.

ST. CLEMENT'S CHURCH, STRAND.—Mr. Lowe proposes to pull down the Church of St. Clement Danes in the Strand, in order to make a good approach to the new law courts. In case this be done the Government would build a new church close to the courts, and in a style of architecture in keeping with those buildings, together with a parsonage and schools. The parishioners held a meeting on Monday night to consider the subject, but as Mr. Street, the architect to whom the Chancellor of the Exchequer has made the proposition, is out of town, it was resolved not to take any step in the matter at present. The Rev. R. J. Simpson, the rector, was in the chair, and several of the parishioners spoke in reference to the object of the meeting, the general tone of which does not seem to have been favourable to Mr. Lowe's proposition.

CARDINAL CULLEN ON EDUCATION.—Cardinal Cullen has issued another pastoral on the subject of education, in which he again insists upon the necessity existing for an exclusively Ultramontane education being given to all Roman Catholics, rich and poor. Referring to the model and training schools, he observes that of the parents who send their children to such institutions, all he will say for the present is, that they "expose them to the risk of losing their faith, and on the last day they shall, (sic) have to render to the Eternal Judge a dreadful account for having betrayed the sacred deposit committed to them, and exposed to perdition those souls which he had redeemed with His precious blood." It is stated, however, that even the cardinal's own priests encourage these training schools by placing over the national schools in their parishes masters and mistresses trained in them.

SINGULAR ACTION BY A CANON.—Canon Selwyn, brother of the Bishop of Lichfield, has given notice to the Lord President of the Council of his intention to move for a mandamus to show cause why a petition of his to the Queen in Council shall not be

presented. The petition prays Her Majesty to allow him to be heard as to whether her assent to the Irish Church Disestablishment Act was not *ultra vires*. The canon, who is one of the Queen's chaplains, contends that the act of Her Majesty was a stretch of the Royal prerogative, and that the proceedings in Parliament in reference to the disestablishment of the Irish Church are a dead letter. On the last day of the spring sitting of the Lower House of Convocation, the canon delivered a learned speech in which he warmly announced his intention of testing the question to the uttermost, even if he stood alone; and he narrated the communications he had had with the Home Secretary and others in order to get the petition in question presented. The case will probably come on in the Queen's Bench soon after the long vacation.

## Religious and Denominational News.

### SION CHAPEL, BRADFORD.

The foundation-stone of the new Sion Baptist Chapel to be erected in Harris-street, Leeds-road, Bradford, was laid on Tuesday afternoon, Aug. 1, by Mr. W. Stead, of Southport. It is intended to be a jubilee memorial chapel inaugurated in 1873, in which year the present place of worship will have been in use for just half a century. The present chapel is situated in Bridge-street. It has for years been too small to accommodate comfortably the congregation worshipping at the place, and, in addition to this, its proximity to the railway has rendered it objectionable. The chapel has been altered about half a dozen times for the purpose of furnishing all possible accommodation. The chapel will now only seat short of 800 people, and in the schools in connection with it there is only room for about 400 children. About nine years ago the members of this church promoted the erection of Hallfield Chapel and schools in Manningham-lane. They were opened in 1863, and a large number of the Sion congregation drafted there. This congregation was placed under the pastoral care of the Rev. J. Makepeace, until he was compelled by failing health to resign and go to a milder climate. He had been succeeded by the Rev. James Mursell, who, surrounded by a band of earnest and devoted labourers, is with great earnestness and vigour prosecuting the work. There was a further school extension some years ago, a school being opened in Caledonia-street affording accommodation for about 400 children, and carried on in connection with the Sion chapel. By these means the premises in Bridge-street were for a time relieved, but the body so rapidly progressed in numbers and influence that the commencement of operations could be no longer delayed. It was the suggestion of the Rev. B. Chown, the pastor, that the chapel should be inaugurated as a jubilee memorial. Half-yearly tea-meetings and bazaars have been held, and a canvas has been made, amongst the Baptist community only, for subscriptions to the building fund. It is only just to state, however, that the building committee have received several large and liberal subscriptions spontaneously given by members of other religious bodies. The subscriptions already paid and promised amount to about £6,000. The proposed new chapel has been designed by Messrs. Lockwood and Mason, architects. It will be erected on a site in Peacock Walks, with the principal front to Harris-street, with Greene-street below, and Peacock-street above. The site is upwards of 3,000 feet in extent—including the half of the three streets named, which the building committee have had also to purchase—and it has been bought at a cost of more than £3,000. The building itself, it is expected, will cost £12,000 or £13,000, making a total outlay of £15,000 or £16,000. The interior of the chapel will contain about 1,200 people. The Sunday-schools will adjoin, and are intended to be able to accommodate about 600 children. The style of architecture of the new chapel will be Italian.

There was a large assembly to witness the laying of the foundation-stone. The Rev. J. P. Chown having delivered an address, Mr. Wilcock deposited in a niche beneath the stone a bottle containing the local newspapers of the day, and a statement from which it appears that the present members of the church number 737; the Sunday-school teachers are 122, and the scholars 937.

Mr. W. Stead, having adjusted the stone, after referring to the intended school accommodation, said that few schools had enjoyed a greater amount of prosperity than theirs had during the last twenty years. At least 400 members had been brought out of the school into the church, some of whom were engaged in the work of the gospel both at home and abroad.

At five o'clock another of the series of half-yearly tea-meetings took place in the Sion schoolroom, the trays being furnished and presided over by the ladies of the congregation. Between 800 and 1,000 people sat down. A public meeting was held at St. George's Hall in the evening, at which the Rev. J. P. Chown presided. There was a large attendance. Mr. John Cole, the treasurer, stated that the subscriptions promised towards the undertaking amounted to £4,431; of that sum they had received £1,780, leaving a balance of £2,651, yet to come. Besides the £1,780 received there had come in £1,160, in subscriptions unclaimed, which, with the proceeds of the sale of work, tea-parties, &c., would make £2,941 received. They had paid towards the ground £1,700. They had about £1,240 more in the bank, and a pound or two in the treasurer's hands. Mr. Wilcock, the secretary of the fund, believed

they might fairly say that that day they had gained towards the object they had in view an additional £1,500, or £1,600. The Rev. J. G. Miall delivered a brief and appropriate address. The Mayor of Leeds followed, and exhorted the congregation, when they got to the new chapel, not to forget the words of Christ, "The poor have the gospel preached unto them." If the masses of the people were neglected, then woe to the Church. He promised £100 to the building fund. The Rev. James Mursell expressed the deep interest of the Hallfield congregation in the movement, and then said he was glad the new chapel had been placed in the midst of the population, for he believed that the least encouraging phase in connection with the religious movements of recent times was the practice of building suburban places of worship. Mr. W. Whitehead next made some congratulatory remarks. The Rev. T. Pottenger said that ever since he had known Sion Chapel, at least for the last thirty years and upwards, it had been remarkable for the spirit of prayer, which he believed had been one of the secrets of its success. It had been especially a zealous and liberal church. Mr. Briggs Priestley felt thankful that the pastor of that church had that day signed and sealed a new contract with the people of Bradford which would bind him to Bradford for many years to come, probably to the end of his life.

The Rev. T. Sheldon has resigned the pastorate of the Congregational Church at Westhoughton, near Bolton, after a ministry of five years.

Twenty-six Essays are in the hands of the Rev. John Kelly, for his adjudication on the subject, "The Conversion of Sinners the Grand Object of the Christian Ministry."

**THE SOCIETY OF FRIENDS.**—In this denomination last year, 184 were admitted as members, and 100 resigned, leaving an increase by "convincement," as the report gives it, of 84. There are in Great Britain 325 Friends' meetings for worship, 14,013 (viz., 6,674 male and 7,339 female) members, and 4,061 non-members habitually attend the meetings. The Quakers have 738 overseers, one to every 20 of their members, whose duty it is to pay pastoral visits and in other ways to encourage and to help the little band entrusted to them. But these "overseers" are not popular, and the *Quarterly Examiner* suggests that their name should be changed.

**GLASGOW.**—The installation of the Rev. Alexander Craib, of New College, London, as the pastor of Wardlaw Congregational Church, Glasgow, took place on the 27th of July. The Revs. T. Mathieson, A. Oliver, B.A., and T. R. Atkinson, took part in the preliminary devotions. The usual questions were asked by the Rev. Geo. Pritchard, of the London Missionary Society for Scotland; the prayer was offered by the Rev. Dr. Pulsford; the charge to the new minister was delivered by the Rev. Dr. Wardlaw, of London; and the Rev. David Russell preached to the people. On the following Sunday (July 30th) the new minister was introduced to his people by the Rev. Robert Weir, who preached from Hebrews xiii. 20, 21; and in the afternoon the Rev. Alex. Craib preached from Hosea vi. 3, to a large and attentive congregation. On the following Thursday there was a congregational *soirée*, at which about 700 persons took tea. The pastor presided, and several congratulatory addresses were delivered. All the meetings were most interesting and profitable; and we are informed that the Rev. A. Craib is heartily welcomed to his new sphere of labour by ministers and friends of all denominations.

**THE REV. R. W. DALE, M.A.**—On Wednesday evening, last week, a meeting was held in Carr's-lane Chapel, Birmingham, to afford the church and congregation an opportunity of expressing their opinion in respect to the possible removal of Mr. Dale to London. It is, we believe, no secret that Mr. Dale has received a pressing invitation to the pastorate of the Old Gravel-pit Congregational Church, Hackney, which the Rev. Dr. Spence has been obliged to resign on account of ill health, just after the opening of a new and handsome place of worship. At the meeting referred to, resolutions were very heartily and unanimously passed, concurring in the sentiments of a memorial already forwarded to Mr. Dale by the deacons, expressing full confidence in him, and the deep affection cherished for him; the loss that his removal from Birmingham would be to Springhill College, to the churches of the locality generally, and to the town at large, in its social, moral, and political interests; and calling upon the deacons to use every honourable means to induce Mr. Dale to remain at Carr's-lane Chapel, and continue the work which has been so magnificently blessed. In the course of the proceedings it was reported that the pastors and deacons of the Independent and Baptist churches had met on the previous evening in the vestry of Steelhouse-lane Chapel, to express their opinion that Mr. Dale's removal would be "a public calamity," and appointing a deputation to wait upon him with a letter expressive of the views entertained among the churches represented at the meeting. A meeting of the ladies of the congregation was held after the public meeting, when a memorial to Mr. Dale was agreed on. Mr. Dale has yielded to this great pressure, and resolved not to leave Birmingham. "This determination," says the *Birmingham Post*, "was made known on Saturday morning, and has been received with a feeling of intense relief by all classes of people in the town. At Carr's-lane Chapel, on Sunday morning, Mr. Dale's decision was announced,

and it was stated that he will address a formal letter to the church in a few days."

**WILMCOOTE.**—A very handsome new chapel has been erected in the village of Wilmcote by the friends connected with the Independent Chapel in Stratford-on-Avon. A very efficient mission has been for many years sustained there by them, and long before there was any church connected with the Establishment in the place, the Independent Chapel existed as the only means of Christianizing the people. Although about twelve years ago a new church was built, the people seem to have maintained their allegiance to the chapel, which in this case might certainly be regarded as the Established Church, and of late years it has become so full as to necessitate the erection of a larger place of worship. Accordingly the old chapel has been turned into day schools and placed under Government inspection, and a new chapel erected in a more prominent place in the village. The new church, as it may be termed, is substantially built of brick, and is capable of seating 150 persons. The chapel was opened on the afternoon of Monday, August 7th. A large congregation assembled, many of whom were unable to gain admission. After prayer was offered, and the Scriptures read by the Rev. G. Shaw, of Warwick, and the Rev. W. Radburn, of Henley-in-Arden, the Rev. J. Scott James, of Stratford, solemnly dedicated the building to the service of God. The Rev. J. Shillito, of Birmingham, offered a prayer for the Church universal, and the Rev. G. B. Johnson, of Birmingham, preached a most interesting and faithful sermon instead of the Rev. C. Vince, whose very serious illness prevented him from fulfilling his promise of preaching on this occasion. After the service, tea was provided in an adjoining field, kindly lent for the occasion by Mr. Badger, of Wilmcote, to which about 400 persons sat down. After tea a public meeting was held in the open air. E. Mander, Esq., of Birmingham, presided. Addresses were delivered by the Rev. J. Scott James, on "Nonconformity in country villages;" by the Rev. G. B. Johnson, on "Christian life in country villages;" and by the Rev. J. Shillito, on "Personal religion." After an expression of sympathy with the family and church of Mr. Vince on his illness, and thanks given for various services rendered, the meeting separated. Thus ended these most happy and successful gatherings. The cost of the new chapel was £76. 14s. 7d., and the contributions amounted to £76. 5s., leaving a balance of 100. 9s. 7d. to be raised at the commencement of the day. We understand there is still needed about £75. to clear the chapel from debt.

**LIVERPOOL.**—Fabius Chapel has been erected on a piece of ground put in trust in the year 1707 by Dr. Daniel Fabius for the Baptist denomination, to be applied to such uses as they might think expedient. It was used as a burial-ground until the year 1840, when it was finally closed by order of Government. But application having been made to the trustees, and permission granted by the Home Department, it has been converted, with no disturbance of the graves, to the above purpose. The new chapel is a neat, substantial, but unpretending building. It is arranged to accommodate about 550 persons on the ground floor, and it is high enough to admit of galleries being erected when required, so as to give, ultimately, seat room for 1,000 persons. The cost of all the buildings is about £2,200. Of this about one-half has been raised by voluntary contributions. The chapel was opened by a service on the 2nd instant. The building was crowded. The Revs. C. M. Birrell, H. S. Brown, and T. Durant (the pastor of the congregation) took part in the service. A sermon was preached by the Rev. C. M. Birrell. The reverend gentleman selected as his text Psalm xc. 1—"Lord, Thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations." In the course of his discourse the preacher illustrated his text by a reference to the history of the people who first worshipped on that spot where they were convened in a sanctuary erected over their ashes:

Rapid, he said, as the glance of that history would be, there would be discernible in it a period of persecution, of civil freedom, of religious revival, and of missionary enterprise. The period of persecution was that which began with the restoration of the Stuarts in 1660. The condition of the country at that time arose, of course, out of many preceding events, and was for religion probably one of the darkest it has ever seen. There were in the Church some of the greatest minds ever granted to her—men of great culture, of profound knowledge of truth, and, through special discipline, of unwonted depth of Christian experience; but they were forbidden to exercise their ministry, and then were compelled to live at least five miles distant from the towns in which they formerly exercised it; while if even in their places of exile they preached to more than their own families they were liable to fine and imprisonment. The gaols of England were consequently choked with Nonconformists. In places very unlike the palatial prisons of the present day, some of the best men in the land spent the prime of their days; and though, like Bunyan, who went in at thirty-three and did not come out again till he was forty-five years old, their mouths were closed only to give such currency to their pens that they produced books like the "Pilgrim's Progress," the "Saint's Rest," and the "Living Temple," the blessing is no defence of the spirit of persecution. It was on one of those Sabbath mornings which sent its beams through the bars of Bedford Gaol and enabled Bunyan to decipher the rough manuscript of the pilgrim for the entertainment of his fellow prisoners, that a gentleman, who had escaped from London to this part of the island, going out early, saw a string of people wend their way along a footpath which led over the boundary line of Lancashire and Cheshire. They had a certain air about them which told him they were not careless

wanderers, and he resolved to keep them in sight. They threaded a wood, and then, ascending a gentle eminence from which watch might be kept, reached and entered a meeting-house. No sounds of psalmody were allowed to issue from it; but the voice of prayer, as he listened, went to the stranger's heart, and convinced him that he had found a home. Though he entered cautiously, the preacher was alarmed. He could not believe that a person of such unwonted aspect could be any other than an invader of their place. But a wave of the hand restored his confidence, and from the close of that service through many subsequent years Francis Turner, the learned and faithful preacher, found in Samuel Hall, the London merchant, a fast friend. It was not many years after that Sunday that another one, never to be forgotten, broke upon England. On the morning of the 4th November, 1868, the fleet which bore the Prince of Orange slackened sail and held divine worship under the cliffs of the Isle of Wight. Next morning the prince landed quietly, and not as the painters represent, on what was then a desolate rock on the western point of the great amphitheatre of Torbay. It was impossible for the Government to carry out its own views of religious liberty against the powerful parties opposed to it. It was still denied to the Romanist and the Unitarian to meet for worship; and no one, unless he took the sacrament in the Established Church, could hold any office under the Crown, represent a constituency in Parliament, or direct the affairs of a corporate town. But the change was vast when brought into comparison with the past, and one among greater results was that the church at Hill-Cliffe began to send its preachers to Liverpool, which, though since increased in population a hundred times, presented even then a large field of labour. Mr. Turner generally performed the journey on foot, though a horse was sometimes provided for him. It was many years later before one could drive a carriage nearer to Liverpool than Warrington. A cordial reception was given to these messengers of peace. We are assembled this evening on a spot which then formed the ample garden of a mansion standing on one of the most picturesque spots of the suburban village of Everton. It belonged to a "good physician" named Daniel Bean, or, as he was styled according to the fashion of learned men adopting the Latin translation of their names, Daniel Fabius. Little is now known of this "Gaius" of our early Church. It may be perceived by the tablet over his grave, on your right hand as you enter, that he died at the early age of thirty-seven; but not before his house, which had been registered according to the Act of Toleration, in the last year of the seventeenth century, had been exchanged by his further liberality for a small wooden chapel, surrounded in course of time by the dust of those who were denied an honourable burial in the national churchyards. When the congregation left his cradle in Everton, and erected the building known in recent years as St. Stephen's, Byrom-street, now at last demolished, it passed into a period of great depression. The half-century which followed the opening of that edifice was religiously one of the dreariest in English history. The pressure of persecution and the fury of political parties being allayed, a condition followed difficult to pronounce either death or life. Large numbers parted from evangelical truth altogether, and those who retained their hold of it seemed half ashamed of the possession. "The Puritans," some one has well said; "were dead, and the Methodists were not born." The blessing, however, for which the few had not ceased to cry, arrived at last. Like the breath of spring, the Divine Spirit came noiselessly but mightily over the whole church. There was probably not a spot in the land in which the gospel had been planted which did not partake of the mysterious influence. John Newton, the vicar of Olney, at that time resident in Liverpool, tells in his inimitable letters how he was cheered in the first days of his religious life by intercourse with the minister and members of that little church, disclosing in its charming style the piety which in that cold age, glowed in the families and meetings to which he was made welcome.

## UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

The following candidates have passed the recent first M.B. examination:—

**FIRST DIVISION.**—Henry Seymour Branfoot, Guy's Hospital; Arthur Buchanan, Guy's Hospital; Henry Colgate, University College; Andrew Dodson, Queen's College, Birmingham; Chas. Firth, St. Bartholomew's Hospital; Charles Alfred Rayne, University College; Edward Albert Schaefer, University College; Edward Markham Skerritt, B.A., University College; George Francis Kirby Smith, Guy's Hospital.

**SECOND DIVISION.**—Boughton Addy, St. Thomas's Hospital; John Appleyard, University College; Henry Ashby, Guy's Hospital; Edward Cresswell Baber, St. George's Hospital; Samuel Habermann Blake, University College; Hugh Walter Boddy, Manchester Royal School of Medicine; George Wilson Burn, St. Bartholomew's Hospital; Edgar Reginald Legassicke Crespin, Guy's Hospital; William Dyson, B.A., University College; Charles William Harvey, University College; Edward Kennedy, B.A., Manchester Royal School of Medicine; David Neilson Knox, M.A., Glasgow, University of Glasgow; David Bridge Lees, University of Cambridge; John Lewtas, Liverpool School of Medicine; Thomas Sharpe Parry, University College; Wm. Allen Sturge, British Medical School and University College.

## EXCLUDING PHYSIOLOGY.

**SECOND DIVISION.**—George Albert Dundas, Guy's Hospital; Richard Hickman, St. Mary's Hospital; Arthur Nicholson, King's College.

## PHYSIOLOGY ONLY.

**FIRST DIVISION.**—Arthur Mudge Branfoot, Guy's Hospital.

**SECOND DIVISION.**—David Arthur Davies, University College; Herbert Campbell Moss, King's College; Edmund Blackett Owen, St. Mary's Hospital; William Summerhayes, St. Thomas's Hospital; John (B) Taylor, Guy's Hospital; William Williams, Guy's Hospital.

Mr. Henry Leslie, at the request of the Tonic Sol-fa Association, has composed a part-song to be sung as a test of sight-reading, at their Annual Juvenile Concert in the Crystal Palace on Wednesday next.

## Imperial Parliament.

## HOUSE OF LORDS.

## REJECTION OF THE BALLOT BILL.

On Thursday, the Marquis of RIPPON moved the second reading of the Elections (Parliamentary and Municipal) Bill. In the course of his speech, he observed that in the United States the ballot was not secret, but it conducted in a remarkable degree to the tranquillity of elections. The fact that the bill had passed the other House by large majorities at every stage ought to weigh with their lordships.

The Earl of SHAFESBURY moved the rejection of the bill, without expressing any opinion upon either its principles or details, and solely on the ground of the late period at which they were asked to discuss a measure of such vital importance. The question had only once before been submitted to their lordships, yet they were now asked to pass a bill, consisting of fifty-three clauses and schedules equally important, which had engaged the attention of the other House for two months. The provisions of the bill were incoherent, confused, and contradictory; and as Liberal members had given notice of 100 amendments, not one of which had been moved, the measure must, by their own admission, be very imperfect. Two Ballot Bills had been proposed by ministers—one in 1870, the other in 1871. In the first a scrutiny was provided for; in the second the scrutiny provision was struck out. Had not their lordships a right to discuss whether or not the scrutiny should be restored? (Opposition cheers.) The public-house was considered to be the most important clause in the bill, and he, for one, would do all in his power to make it ten times more stringent; and if their lordships concurred with him, they could, in this matter, be of great assistance to the House of Commons. (Ministerial cheers.) The House of Commons was under the influence of the licensed victuallers, the House of Lords was free from that influence. (Cheers and laughter.) Their lordships might say "We know what is best for the country, and we shall alter the bill as to abolish scenes of drunkenness from Parliamentary elections." (Hear, hear.) But they had not time to consider this important point. The Government itself was not united about the bill. Lord Hartington had declared that he adhered in principle to the bill of last year, and had only accepted the present from motives of political necessity. Their lordships were under no political necessity. All they wanted was a safe and efficient measure, and they must have time to make it safe and efficient. Then as to personation, which had baffled the colonies and given rise to what was called the Tasmanian dodge. They had no time to make that important point safe, nor to consider the 18th clause, which provided for the payment of election expenses. Another proposal was that the poll should be kept open until eight o'clock. That proposal had been rejected by the House of Commons, but he from his experience of working men's meetings believed that it was most essential to their fair exercise of the franchise. (Hear, hear.) They had been told by a Cabinet minister that the bill would be the law of the land in a few months, but that was only another reason why their lordships should make it as perfect as possible. If the House of Commons wanted careful consideration for public measures of importance they should either have some of them originated in the House of Lords or else send them up in reasonable time. He did not understand their lordships being kept waiting like lackeys in an ante-chamber until the other House chose to send up their measures. (Opposition cheers.) There was no present urgency for this bill, but there was urgency for sixteen millions of estimates, and for a good water bill in anticipation of the cholera. He was as anxious as any man to pay due deference to the wishes of the people, but he was not willing to treat them as demi-gods, but rather to appeal to their common sense as to whether it would not be better to take time for the consideration of this bill. If next year they demanded the ballot he should give their wishes the most careful attention, but this year he was willing to take the full responsibility of sending back this vile monstrosity of a bill for another session, and for more free and deliberate consideration. (Opposition cheers.)

Lord ACTON appealed to their lordships not to put aside without discussion a measure which came up to them for the first time after forty years' political agitation. Lord ROMILLY also entreated their lordships not to allow it to be said that out of laziness, or because they wanted to go to their amusements in the country, they had refused to give up a fortnight to consider a measure of vital importance. Lord LYVEDEN, who said he had been a Liberal when Mr. Gladstone was an Orange Tory, denied that the ballot was an article of the Liberal creed; on the contrary, it was an illiberal and retrograde measure. Lord HARROBY denounced the bill as introducing a shabby feeling into the country, and enabling a man to say one thing and do another. The Duke of SOMERSET taunted the Government with using the plea of time to excuse themselves from doing anything in regard to Irish University education or sanitary legislation, though they refused the use of the same argument to the Lords. The fact was, the Government was in a difficulty, and wanted a rallying cry. All its measures had broken down. It was the most unlucky Government that ever was. What a mess they had made

of it in the park here and in the park in Ireland! Their army couldn't march and their ships couldn't swim. The Government did not much care whether the bill was passed or not. It would answer their purpose either way. He should vote with Lord Shaftesbury, in order to put the Government out of their pain. The Duke of RICHMOND also supported the amendment, as it would be the end of September before the bill could receive the Royal assent. A grave responsibility rested upon a Ministry which urged through a bill with unusual rapidity, for the sole purpose, as it appeared, of throwing the responsibility of its inevitable rejection upon their lordships.

Lord Kimberley, Lord Morley, the Lord Chancellor, and Lord Granville spoke for the Government, the gist of their arguments being that the country was really anxious about the bill, and that it would not look well for the Lords to refuse to consider it on the plea that they could not afford the time and labour for the purpose.

Lord GRANVILLE, replying to the Duke of Somerset, reminded him that four out of the nine measures recommended in the Queen's Speech had already passed.

I do not believe (his lordship said) in the speedy abolition of the House of Lords; both for personal and public reasons I should most strongly object to it. But what I think you can do is not to destroy the House of Lords, but somewhat to weaken its just influence with the nation, and I think the best thing you can now do is to show no reluctance to undertake real work in the service of the nation. (Cheers.)

The House of Commons had sat in this session the incredible number of between 1,030 and 1,040 hours, of which 120 or 130 had been after midnight. He had carefully abstained from making any calculation as to the length of their lordships' sittings either before or after twelve o'clock; but with the exception of his colleagues, and one or two noble lords who sat on the front bench opposite, he believed that most of them had found time to attend to other matters both in town and in the country. He was afraid that if they gave it as a reason for declining to read this bill a second time that they would not consider measures after dates which unfortunately coincided with certain dates in the month of August, their lordships would lose their character for zeal and readiness to tackle the real work whenever it might be set before them. Speaking, then, absolutely against hope, he felt bound to express his regret that their lordships were not likely to give a second reading to the bill before them. (Cheers.)

Their lordships then divided—

For the second reading ... ... ... 48

For the amendment ... ... ... 97—49

On the bringing up of the report of the Intoxicating Liquors' Licenses Suspension Bill, Earl BEAUCHAMP moved the insertion of an amendment suspending grocers' licenses for the sale of intoxicating liquors during the suspension of licensed victuallers' licenses. After a short discussion, the amendment was added, and the report agreed to.

Their lordships adjourned at twenty-five minutes past ten o'clock.

On Monday the Royal Assent was given by commission to Prince Arthur's Annuity, the Local Government Board, Public Libraries Act (1855) Amendment, and other Bills.

Lord SHAFESBURY, fearing that the effect of levying an education rate would be to shut up the ragged schools, and send the children into the street, asked when the schools of the London School Board would be ready. Lord HALIFAX, in the absence of the Lord President, was unable to give any precise reply, but explained the progress made by the London School Board in carrying out the Education Act.

The Merchant Shipping Acts Amendment Bill was read a second time.

## THE BERKSHIRE MANOEUVRES.

Lord STRATHEDEN, in moving an address for a commission to inquire into the causes of the abandonment of the Berkshire Camp, dilated upon some of the military and political lessons of the late war, and also adverted to the abolition of purchase. Lord DE LA WARD thought that the Government had acted wisely in modifying the original plan. Lord TRURO said that the Government deserved the thanks of the country for having originated this campaign, and thought that the plan, although modified, would give instruction both to officers and men. Lord HERTFORD thought that the time had gone by for a Royal Commission, but questioned the efficiency of the transport department. Lord NORTHBROOK explained that the new manoeuvres were designed to test not only strategy upon the plan of the Prussian autumn reviews, but also the efficiency of the transport department. Recapitulating the improvements in army administration carried out by Mr. Cardwell, he appealed to Lord Stratheden not to press his motion to a division. The motion was then withdrawn.

The LORD CHANCELLOR, declining to accept the suggestion of Lord Redesdale to postpone the Reductions ex Capite Lecti Abolition Bill in consequence of Lord Colonsay's absence, moved the third reading, which was carried.

Their lordships adjourned shortly after seven.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

## THE LOSS OF THE CAPTAIN.

On Wednesday, Lord H. LENNOX brought on his long delayed motion with respect to the loss of the Captain. The frequent postponements, he

explained, were due to the singular confusion into which public business had fallen this year, and he remarked also that if Mr. Childers had come down and assumed the responsibility of an error in judgment not a word more would have been said. Instead of this he issued his famous "Minute," which Lord Henry condemned as a terrible breach of faith to his colleagues, and a partial, unfair statement, designed to throw his own responsibility on the shoulders of colleagues and subordinates. Declining to hazard any professional explanation of the calamity, he pointed out that the whole minute was one continuous protest against Mr. Childers's own changes at the Admiralty, and that it could not have happened if the co-operation among the different members of the board under the old system had been maintained. Lord Henry concluded by moving, as a matter of form, for the appointment of a committee,

Mr. GOSCHEN began his reply by explaining that he had not been able to communicate with Mr. Childers, as he should have wished, and by dwelling on the difficulty of having to defend from mere documentary evidence transactions in which he had taken no part, and in the absence of the person accused. Dividing his defence into two parts—the despatch of the Captain to sea, and the publication of the minute—under the first he contended that the warnings addressed to Mr. Childers were applied to a whole class, and not to this particular ship; that a passage in Mr. Reed's report relied on by Lord H. Lennox was directed against the fighting powers, not the seaworthiness of the Captain, and that Admiral Robinson had reported that with careful handling she might be sent to sea. With regard to the minute, he pleaded that Mr. Childers alone could explain the impressions under which he wrote it, and, therefore, without claiming an acquittal, he desired that judgment should be suspended until Mr. Childers himself could speak. At the same time he defended the minute from the charge of suppression, &c., and as to the attempt to shift the blame to subordinates, he contended that, from the evidence before the court-martial, Mr. Childers was justified in assuming that Mr. Reed had known more than he had communicated.

Sir JOHN PAKINGTON was of opinion that she ought not to have been sent to sea. Mr. HENLEY commented on the "scandal" and "indecent spectacle" of the First Lord and his subordinates bandying responsibility from one to the other. Mr. GRAVES said that the Admiralty was responsible for sending the ship to sea, and for keeping Captain Burgoine ignorant of her point of danger. After some remarks from Admiral Erskine and Lord H. Scott, Mr. SHAW LEFEVRE defended Mr. Childers, deprecating a premature judgment until he could be heard in his own vindication. Lord H. Lennox then withdrew his motion.

The Metropolis Water, Merchant Shipping Act Amendments, and the Tancered Charities Bills were read a third time and passed.

The House adjourned at five minutes to six o'clock.

On Thursday, in reply to a question, Mr. GLADSTONE said that Her Majesty's plans for removing to Balmoral, after several postponements in consequence of the state of public business, were not yet settled, but no prolongation of the session would be caused by the Queen's departure.

In reply to Mr. Alderman Lawrence, Mr. MONSELL held out a hope that as the additional space required would be obtained about the end of next year, when the new post-office was completed, the department would be ready to consider the suggestion to introduce sixpenny telegrams of ten words.

#### THE AUTUMN MANOEUVRES.

In moving the second reading of the Military Manoeuvres Bill, Mr. CARDWELL argued that as a matter of fact Berkshire never had been definitely fixed on as the scene of operations, and that the manœuvres in Surrey and Hampshire would be as instructive as any which could have been carried on in Berkshire, the area being larger and more healthy. The distance from the base of operations (Aldershot) was only twelve miles, but the Control Department would be quite as severely tested.

Colonel ANSON moved a resolution regretting the abandonment of the Berkshire campaign, and expressing dissatisfaction with the state of things existing in the War Office. He contended that the manœuvres as now arranged must utterly fail in giving the troops that instruction which it was their original object to convey. Colonel LOYD-LINDSAY seconded the amendment, declaring that the troops might as well stop at Aldershot as manœuvre on the new plan. Sir H. STORKS remarked that if they intended to carry out the Prussian system the first thing to do was to Prussianise this country and also our army. For the autumn manœuvres in Prussia no tents of any kind were taken; the officers were allowed 60lb. weight of baggage, but the men only took their knapsacks; there were no field hospital arrangements; each man was limited to about five rounds of ammunition per diem; while fuel, forage, and other articles were obtained by contract or by requisition. That he gathered from a memorandum of the Prussian military attaché in this country. Here, on the other hand, they had to carry tents, camp equipage, ammunition, water, fuel, food, forage, horse rugs, cooking utensils, entrenching tools, and many other things. It had been said that the Control system had collapsed. He contended that it had not collapsed, but had given satisfaction everywhere when it had been tried. He admitted that the Control Department was not popular with officers of the army, but

that was mainly, he suspected, owing to its name, which offended the British sense of independence, and also partly to jealousy of civilians.

Lord ECHO attributed the change of plans to the sudden awakening of the War Office to the great cost of transport, and insisted that the Control system was based on a false principle, and sooner or later must break down. Sir J. PAKINGTON defended the Control system, and regretted that it was not to be thoroughly tested. After some further discussion, Colonel Anson's motion was negatived without a division, and the bill was read a second time.

#### THE ROYAL WARRANT.

On the motion to consider the Lords' amendments to the Army Bill, Mr. DISRAELI called attention to the change in the preamble of the bill, and moved for the appointment of a select committee to search the journals of the House of Lords to ascertain what had happened to the bill there. Mr. CARDWELL thought this unnecessary, as the votes of the House of Commons disclosed what had been done elsewhere; and the motion was negatived.

Mr. TORRENS then moved to postpone the amendments for three days, in order to pass a standing order to prevent the withdrawal by Royal Warrant of any part of a bill from the discretion of Parliament. The Speaker ruled that the consideration of the amendments had been agreed to, and Mr. Torrens therefore merely moved an adjournment. After a few words from Mr. NEWDEGATE the adjournment was negatived by 141 to 83.

On the first amendment being put, Sir S. NORTH-COTT protested against the silence of the Government. This brought up the SOLICITOR-GENERAL, who argued in favour of the legality of the Royal Warrant, contending that Parliament had nothing whatever to do with the army. Whatever might have been the case when the prerogative was real, it was absurd to say that there was any danger to the liberties of the House in an act which could only be done by a Minister who had a majority in it.

Mr. DISRAELI remarked that his anxiety was not for the House of Lords, which had defended itself, but for the privileges of the House of Commons. It was perfectly competent for the Crown to restore purchase by warrant, so that the House might be juggled out of the consideration for which it had imposed a heavy burden on the people. Mr. NEWDEGATE strongly condemned the use of the prerogative; and Mr. HARcourt ridiculed to Solicitor-General's statement that Parliament had nothing to do with the army.

In the end the debate was adjourned until Tuesday.

The House adjourned at twenty-five minutes to four o'clock.

On Friday the House met at two o'clock, and the Speaker, exhausted by the protracted sittings of the week, was too unwell to take the chair, and Mr. Dodson had to supply his place.

Sir M. LOPEZ gave notice that next session he should call attention to the principle acted upon by the Endowed School Commissioners, that funds exclusively bestowed for the purposes of the poor should be devoted to secular education, and to move a resolution to the effect that such power was never contemplated when the Act was passed.

#### THE PROTRACTED Sittings OF THE HOUSE.

Mr. WHALLEY, in calling attention to the disgraceful condition of public business and the impossibility of transacting it properly at three or four o'clock in the morning, was challenged by the DEPUTY-SPEAKER for referring to the fact that the newspapers did not report their proceedings. The House, Mr. Dodson held, could not take notice of such matters. Mr. Whalley was loudly cheered by both sides for his protest against the prolonged sittings, and Mr. GREAVES made some remarks to the same effect. Sir J. PAKINGTON also declared that in the whole thirty-four years he had been in the House he never knew public business to be in such a discreditable condition, and the Government were entirely to blame for it. Mr. BERESFORD-HOPE complained that bills which affected the limbs, lives, and happiness of a large portion of their fellow-countrymen were postponed to meet the crotchetts of a few philosophers, and the ambition of the Treasury bench, which, when it saw army, ships, and everything else going to the bottom together, could try to unite a disorganised party by bringing in a measure which, however essential it might be with a pending dissolution, was in no way essential at the present time. Mr. GLADSTONE and Mr. FORSTER said what they could to excuse the Government, and promised to consider in future what arrangements could be made for the relief of the House.

#### THE CHOLERA.

In the course of the questioning Mr. FORSTER stated that two vessels had arrived in the Thames on Saturday from Cronstadt, and in each a man had died from cholera. He learned, however, that the deaths took place at Cronstadt, and their clothing was destroyed. An order had been issued prohibiting the admission into port of any vessel on board of which cholera had occurred until the clothing and bedding had been destroyed.

In reply to Mr. Whalley and Lord Echo, Mr. AYTON said the model of Mr. Noble's statue of Oliver Cromwell had been put up in Palace-yard in order to see how it looked. If there was a public desire for such a memorial the public should prove that this was the case by subscribing for one. Sir J. PAKINGTON added that Mr. Noble's statue was destined for Manchester.

#### THE GOVERNOR EYRE TRIAL.

In answer to Mr. Anderson, Mr. GLADSTONE said that the estimate of 4,000l. for Governor Eyre's law expenses would be reserved for discussion next year. The Government had agreed to propose this vote because they found the late Government had given a kind of pledge on the subject to Mr. Eyre's attorney. It was right, however, that the matter should be fully discussed, and that could not be done at this period of the session. This statement drew forth protests from Mr. B. Cochrane, Mr. Slater-Booth, Sir S. Northcote, and others. Colonel ANSON remarked that it was singular that if the House could discuss the Army and Navy estimates it could not deal with a small matter of 4,000l.

#### THE DOCKYARDS.

On going into Committee of Supply on the Navy Estimates, Mr. CORRY called attention to the dock-yard policy of the Government, complaining that sufficient provision was not made for unarmoured vessels. Mr. GOSCHEN maintained that in steam ironclad cruisers, which constituted our chief power, we had never been so strong relatively. In committee 163,499l. was voted for the Admiralty Office.

#### TRAFFIC IN THE SOUTH SEA ISLANDERS.

At the evening sitting, Mr. P. TAYLOR, on the motion for going into supply, called attention to the evils attending the traffic in the South Sea Islanders. He described at some length the horrible barbarities inflicted by the importation of South Sea Islanders, which originated some ten years ago in a movement for the purpose of obtaining cheap labour in Queensland. He said that under a nominal system of contract hundreds of human beings were brought in a most deplorable condition, very often stark naked, from the various islands in the South Sea, and having been made to work for a certain period of time in the colony, were then returned to their respective islands in a condition morally and intellectually far worse than they were in a state of absolute barbarity. He quoted a report from Captain Palmer, who had captured a schooner conveying these people, which vessel he described as differing in no very essential particular from the old African slaves, and yet Captain Palmer failed to obtain the condemnation of the vessel. He regretted that to some extent this deplorable traffic had been recognised in a recent despatch of Lord Kimberley, who in calling the attention of the Government to the subject, said it would bring discredit on the British name. There was evidence that kidnapping went on to a considerable extent, and he suggested that steps should at once be taken to communicate with the Queensland Government, in order to put an end to this detestable traffic. He concluded by moving for an address for papers on the subject.

Mr. R. N. FOWLER seconded the motion, and alluded in terms of deep regret to the death of Mr. C. Buxton, whose name, and that of his father before him, had so long been honourably associated with the praiseworthy attempts made to put down anything which savoured of the slave trade. Sir C. WINGFIELD also supported the motion, and Sir J. HAY thought it would be disgraceful to this country if a stop were not put to this atrocious system, which was alike disadvantageous to our colonies and discreditable to England.

Mr. KNATCHBULL-HUGESSEN said he entirely endorsed the expression of regret which fell from the lips of his hon. friend in reference to the death of the hon. member for East Surrey (Mr. C. Buxton), whose private virtues equalled, he believed, his public services. (Hear, hear.) As regarded the motion before the House, he thought that at that period of the session, and in the absence of the requisite information, it was not desirable that the question should be discussed, but he quite concurred in the feeling that there should be an ample discussion early next session. He had heard with regret attacks directed against the colony of New Queensland. He did not deny that atrocities had occurred, but the House should not fall into the error of condemning a useful system because there were abuses. The Blue Book showed that efforts had been made by the authorities of Queensland to secure immigration being conducted in a fair and legitimate manner. Not long ago it was arranged that an agent should meet every vessel on its arrival. Now an agent accompanied the labourers back, and it was a fact that many of them, after returning, had expressed a wish to re-engage themselves, and had actually done so. He would not then enter into any of the horrors which had been depicted—horrors from which the mind of any Christian or civilised man must shrink—but would only say, on the part of the Government, that their interest in the remedying of such evils was not less deep than that of the hon. gentleman. England had spoken such great words, and done such brave deeds in connection with slavery, that the very stones would cry out against her if she were to remain silent or indifferent after such statements had been made. (Hear, hear.) The Government would use all proper and legitimate influence to put an end to such a deplorable state of things.

Mr. KINNAIRD said that he liked the principle of the Government better than their practice. The despatches of Lord Clarendon and Lord Kimberley on that subject reminded him of the days of Lord Palmerston, who had a genuine hatred of slavery

in whatever shape or place it appeared. (Hear, hear.) His hon. friend went some way towards justifying what was called kidnapping—("No, no," from Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen)—but was in fact nothing more nor less than slavery. What they wanted was a distinct statement that the evil would be put down with a strong hand.

The motion was then withdrawn.

#### FOREIGN DECORATIONS.

A motion by Mr. EASTWICK for an address to the Queen, to modify the Foreign Office Regulations so as to permit British subjects to accept foreign decorations offered for services rendered with Her Majesty's permission to the sick and wounded in the late war, was opposed by Lord ENFIELD, who said the object of these regulations was to prevent political intrigue, and to disturb them would lead to an immense amount of influence being brought to bear on the Foreign Secretary. After some discussion, the resolution, being put as an amendment, was carried by forty-eight to forty-seven, but Mr. Gladstone insisted upon another division, when it was put as a substantive motion, and it was then rejected by fifty-two to forty-one.

#### THE DUBLIN RIOT.

Sir JOHN GRAY next brought up the recent riot in Dublin. He complained that political meetings should be dispersed by violence in Dublin while they were freely permitted in London. That showed that there was one law for England and another for Ireland, or, at least, that the law was administered in a different way in the two countries. He moved for an inquiry, and Mr. Downing seconded the motion. Lord HARTINGTON, in opposing the motion, pointed out that there would be a full inquiry before the courts of law, but if that proved insufficient, the Government would not shrink from the most searching parliamentary investigation. The law for England and Ireland was the same, and was administered on the same principles. In each country the Government had a right to prohibit public meetings in the Royal parks, but it was a matter of discretion in each case whether that power should be exercised. The imprisoned patriots, in whose honour the demonstration in the Phoenix Park was got up, were not political prisoners at all; they were soldiers who, in addition to the crime of high treason, had committed the crime of breaking the oath of allegiance they had taken to their Sovereign, and had also conspired to seize upon, and in some instances to murder their brethren in arms. There were also those who had participated in the crimes of Manchester and Clerkenwell. There could be no doubt that the intention of the promoters of the meeting was to get up a demonstration offensive to the Lord Lieutenant and the Government. He defended the conduct of the police, who did not interfere until they were themselves attacked. The debate was then adjourned.

At two o'clock an attempt was made to count the House, which, however, failed.

The Vaccination Act (1867) Amendment Bill passed through committee.

The other orders of the day were gone through, and the House adjourned at three o'clock.

On Saturday the House sat for two or three hours. The Betting Bill was withdrawn, with a promise of its reintroduction next session; and Mr. STACPOOLE gave notice of his intention to bring in bills next year for the suppression of pigeon-shooting and to put down "crawlers." Mr. ANDERSON hoped that the Ministry would withdraw the Prison Ministers' Bill, and notified that if they did not he and his friends would make use of all the forms of the House to defeat it. Mr. RYLANDS obtained the assent of the Government to the adoption of a resolution condemning the payment out of the Secret Service money of salaries or pensions to the staff of the Foreign Office, or members of the diplomatic or consular service. And, after Mr. EVKYN had called attention to the defects of the metropolitan police, and had been replied to by Mr. Bruce and Mr. Russell Gurney, Mr. B. HOPE renewed his complaints about the expense of the new road through St. James's Park. He gave notice that next year he will move a vote of censure on Mr. Ayrton's administration, which led to the interchange of some strongly-flavoured personalities between him and the First Commissioner. The Navy Estimates were completed after a good deal of discussion on various naval topics. In moving the British Museum Vote, Mr. WALPOLE paid a tribute to the sedulous and faithful services of the late Mr. Grote as a trustee. Some progress was also made with the remaining votes in the Civil Service Estimates.

On Monday the House met at three o'clock.

In answer to Colonel North and Sir J. Hay it was explained by Mr. G. DUFF and Sir H. STOKES that breech-loaders have been sent to India for all European troops, besides reserves, together with about thirty million rounds of ammunition.

#### MR. HARCOURT AND THE SOLICITOR-GENERAL.

In the course of the preliminary proceedings Mr. VERNON HARCOURT made a personal explanation with reference to the legal question as to the power of the Crown over the army, which was in dispute between himself and the Solicitor-General on Thursday last, and raised a ready laugh by asking the House if it would be surprised to hear that Sir John Coleridge was entirely wrong in a statement which he had made upon the subject on Friday afternoon.

#### OUR MILITARY FORCES.

Mr. CHARLES SEELY (Nottingham) moved for the appointment of a Royal commission to inquire into

the best method of raising, drilling, and organising the military forces of the country. The proposal was seconded by Mr. W. H. SMITH, and supported by Lord ELCHO, Mr. MACFIE, and Mr. SINCLAIR AYTON, Mr. CARDWELL, in a brief speech, declined altogether to assent to a commission, taking on the War Office the whole responsibility on all these points, and pointing out that most of them were unfit to be referred to a commission. He denied that there was any difficulty in getting men; on the contrary, our ranks were full, and he defended once more the short-service system. Mr. EASTWICK reminded Mr. Cardwell of the great responsibility he had assumed, and pressed him carefully to elaborate a scheme of reorganisation during the recess. Mr. MACFIE made some observations, and the motion was then withdrawn.

#### LORD ELCHO AND MR. AYRTON.

Lord ELCHO, in calling attention to the recent destruction of trees in Kensington-gardens, dragged in the subject of the erection of statues in New Palace-gardens; and pretty plainly intimated his opinion that Mr. Ayrton was not qualified to deal with either trees or statues. To this attack the Chief Commissioner of Works replied in his quietest but most sarcastic tones, and adopting the *tu quoque* line of argument assured his noble accuser that although he made no pretensions to taste himself, he was advised by those who had a much larger and sounder knowledge of landscape gardening, of architecture, sculpture, and all other matters connected with the business of his office than either the noble lord himself or any other dilettante critic—"Lord This" or "Mr. That"—either in that House or out of it. Mr. GOLDSMID said a good word for the general success of Mr. Ayrton's administration, and the subject dropped.

#### EDUCATION IN SCOTLAND.

Mr. M'LAREN called attention to the injury sustained by the cause of education amongst the working classes in Scotland from the provisional orders applied for during the present session under the Endowed Hospitals (Scotland) Act of 1869 not having been sanctioned by the Secretary of State for the Home Department. He stated that, had Heriot's Hospital been allowed to avail itself of the assistance afforded by the Act, at least eight, if not ten, additional schools—probably accommodating 300 children each—might have been erected, and that, although repeatedly applied to, the Home Secretary had refused to issue the provisional orders requested solely on the ground that he had not sufficient information to enable him to judge of the expediency of issuing them, although he had had ample opportunities of obtaining that information.

Mr. BRUCE said it was with great hesitation that he arrived at the conclusion that the Act did not confer sufficient powers. He had never suspected anything like jobbery on the part of the managers, nor did he doubt that their scheme would tend to a great improvement; but after careful inquiry he arrived at the conclusion that he had not power to sanction the scheme. It seemed to him a great misfortune that the matter was submitted to the Home Secretary, who had not in his office the means of arriving at a proper conclusion. The whole educational endowments of Scotland amounted to 100,000*l.* a year; more than half of which were connected with Edinburgh alone, and the question was, what was best for the country? It was important, moreover, to see that the funds were not applied simply in relief of the rates.

Mr. MILLER said that the poorer class of Edinburgh were now deprived of the education which they ought to have, and all that had been done by the Government was to renew the promise so often made before.

The House went into committee of supply on the Army Estimates.

#### THE CONTAGIOUS DISEASES ACTS.

On vote 9, a long and only slightly reportable discussion on the working of the Contagious Diseases Acts was raised by Mr. W. FOWLER, who moved to omit the pay of the police employed under the Acts. He took the opportunity of discussing the recent report of the commissioners, and drew from it materials for impugning the principle of the Acts.

Mr. HENLEY said that the Home Secretary's recent explanation led the public to believe that the question was as to the conduct of the police, whereas in fact the complaint was that women were subjected to treatment which no woman, however fallen and however outcast, ought against her will to suffer. That was the ground of the complaint of the 600,000 petitioners last year, and the 500,000 this year, and they also alleged that this treatment was inflicted, not for a good, but for an immoral purpose, and that the two sexes were unequally dealt with. Many Christian women had taken up the question on these grounds, and also on the ground that these Acts were a legal recognition of sin; and while declining to argue the matter upon sanitary grounds, he pointed out that all the evidence at their command failed to show that on the Continent, where a system of the kind was in operation, it was successful in checking the disease. Let them not stay their hands from alleviating human misery, because it was produced by human sin; but while throwing wide open the hospitals to these cases, let them not seem to give a legislative recognition to that which they must all admit to be against God's laws. They dealt with them not to deter or reclaim, but to enable them to carry on their vicious habits. He was afraid they were not treading on safe ground; it seemed to him that they were entering on a course without knowing where it would lead them. There was nothing in

which the corruption of a nation was more marked than when they could not bear to see their own condition placed before their eyes. On the Government rested a vast responsibility. They must base their legislation on the high moral principles of Christianity, and woe, indeed, would it be for the country when they ceased to do so. (Cheers.)

Mr. BRUCE, on behalf of the Government, urged that it was impossible for them to sweep away those Acts at once in the face of the evidence as to the diminution of vice and disease which they had brought about, and of the admitted necessity to replace them by legislation of a wider character, as to which the Government had not had the opportunity yet to make up its mind.

Mr. TIPPING approved the general working of the Acts, and with much antiquarian learning—going back as far as forty centuries—argued that repressive measures had always failed. Mr. MUNDELLA, on the other hand, opposed the Acts, and quoted some of the most unsavoury details of the evidence against them.

Mr. G. GREGORY complained of the unfairness of calling on the House to decide in the absence of the evidence, and Mr. PERCY WYNDHAM condemned the not always unintentional misrepresentations of the opponents of the Acts; while Mr. R. GURNEY supported the reduction of the vote with a view of stopping compulsory examination; and, after some observations from Mr. CARDWELL, deprecating precipitate judgment, Mr. FOWLER's amendment was negatived by 56 to 44.

The remaining Army Estimates were completed about two o'clock, and though many of them were minutely canvassed, there were many complaints that the lateness of the period and the thinness of the House prevented them being adequately considered. Mr. RYLANDS' attempt to disallow Captain Wellesley's salary as Military Attaché at St. Petersburg was defeated by 56 to 13, and Mr. ANDERSON was equally unsuccessful with a motion to strike out the colonelcies held by staff officers—being beaten by 57 to 12.

After the Supplemental Estimates for the expenses of the Army Purchase Commission had been voted, the Civil Service Estimates were taken up and completed, and the other orders were disposed of, and the House adjourned at five minutes past four o'clock.

#### Court, Official, and Personal News.

Her Majesty was indisposed on Saturday and Sunday, which prevented her from dining with the Royal party and attending Divine service. But it has happily passed off, and last evening the Queen and Court arrived at Windsor from Osborne *en route* to Balmoral.

The Duke of Edinburgh was one of Dr. Guthrie's congregation at the Free Church, Lochee, on Sunday. The collection was the largest ever made since the church was built.

A deputation headed by the Lord Chancellor (himself a Sunday-school teacher of thirty years standing) waited upon the Princess Louise on Monday at Argyll Lodge, Kensingon, and presented to Her Royal Highness a Bible on behalf of the Church of England Sunday-schools of the United Kingdom. The Princess said:—

My Lord Chancellor and Reverend Gentlemen.—I accept with sincere gratitude this copy of the Holy Scriptures given me by the children in the Church of England Sunday-schools; and let me add that it gives me additional pleasure to receive it from you, who, in connection with these schools, have done so much to encourage the study of these sacred writings. I request you to let all the scholars and others who have taken part with you in presenting me with this offering know that I have been deeply touched by this proof of their kind feeling for me.

On Thursday the Crown Prince and Princess of Germany paid a visit to Salisbury Cathedral, and afterwards went to Stonehenge.

The Emperor and Empress of Brazil arrived at Dover on Saturday evening, having, *en route* from London, made a brief stay at Canterbury, where they visited the Cathedral and other objects of attraction in that city. They embarked for Ostend.

The Grand Duke Constantine of Russia having, by special permission, examined our dockyards, has paid a visit to the Queen at Osborne.

The Speaker gave his sessional dinner to the principal officers of the House on Wednesday.

The Hon. AUBERON HERBERT, M.P. for Nottingham, and younger brother of the Earl of Carnarvon, married on Wednesday Lady Florence Cowper, sister of Earl Cowper. They spend the honeymoon at one of Lord Carnarvon's country seats.

It is reported that the Emperor Napoleon has recently purchased of Mr. Beaumont, Wimbledon Park House and the grounds attached to it, formerly the property of the Duke of Somerset.

The honour of a baronetcy is to be conferred on Mr. Richard Wallace, in recognition of his splendid services during the siege of Paris.

It is announced that the Duke of Wellington, desiring to promote professional knowledge and the expression of original ideas among officers of the army, proposes, with the concurrence of His Royal Highness the Field-Marshal Commanding-in-Chief, to give 100*l.* as a prize for the best military essay on "The System of Field Manoeuvres best adapted for enabling our Troops to meet a Continental Army." The adjudicator is Colonel E. B. Hamley, C.B., Commandant of the Staff College.

The bankers' clerks are getting up a testimonial

to Sir John Lubbock for his success with the Bank Holidays Bill.

We learn from the *John Bull* that Canon Kingsley is about to visit for the first time Westward Ho, which takes its name from the work he wrote, and scenes he depicted in this neighbourhood. The gentry have determined to give him a banquet on August 17, and at the same time to entertain Mr. J. A. Froude.

The Government, it is said, do not intend to have the usual whitebait dinner at Greenwich this session.

The prorogation of Parliament, which, it was hoped, might be practicable on the 19th of this month, is now expected to take place on Tuesday next, the 22nd inst. Her Majesty's visit, and the transfer of the Court to Balmoral, by postponing some of the necessary forms of public business, may involve a slight further delay. The Appropriation Bill was brought in last night, and will be read a second time to-day.

General Schenck and his daughters have left London for the Continent, and will be absent about a month. The business of the American Legation will be conducted during General Schenck's absence by Mr. Moran.

The *Sheffield Independent* contradicts the rumour of the intention of Mr. Hadfield to retire, and attributes the *canard* to a desire on the part of some persons to bring Mr. Roebuck's name before the electors. Mr. Hadfield is in excellent health.

#### MR. HENRY RICHARD, M.P., ON THE BALLOT AND WALES.

On the third reading of the Elections (Parliamentary and Municipal) Bill on Tuesday, August 8th, Mr. RICHARD spoke as follows:—"As I have not hitherto taken any part in the discussion of this Bill, I trust the House, with its usual kind indulgence, will permit me to offer a few observations at the present stage of our proceedings in the interest of that particular part of the country with which I am more immediately connected, and where, unhappily, recent and painful and abundant evidence has been given to prove that some protection to the voter of the nature provided by this measure is a matter of urgent and imperative necessity. (Hear, hear.) I have been much struck in the course of these discussions with the quiet manner in which hon. gentlemen opposite have assumed a great deal of what they were most bound to prove. One of their assumptions has been this—that the evils for which the ballot is intended as a remedy have disappeared or almost disappeared from our electoral system. The right hon. gentlemen the member for Buckinghamshire has repeatedly told the House, especially as regards landlord coercion—the exercise of undue influence by landlords over their tenants, that the idea was perfectly chimerical and groundless—that no such thing now existed anywhere. Perhaps I could hardly expect that so distinguished a member of this House as the right hon. gentleman should pay much heed to what has been said by so humble an individual as myself. But there are some hon. gentlemen here who will probably remember that during the first session of the present Parliament I called the attention of the House to what had taken place in some parts of the Principality of Wales immediately after the last general election. (Hear, hear.) I told the House how a large number of notices to quit had been served by landlords on their tenants, a number far in excess of anything previously known in that part of the country, and served according to the implicit and universal belief of the country on account of the votes they had recorded at the election. (Cheers.) Whether it was owing to the discussion that then took place in this House, or, as I prefer to believe, owing to a return to a better mind of some of the landlords themselves, a considerable number of those notices were withdrawn or suffered to lapse. Unhappily, however, many of them were rigorously and ruthlessly enforced, insomuch that some scores of men were turned out of house and home, had to sell their stock and furniture for what they could bring—respectable farmers in some instances being reduced to the condition of cottagers and day labourers, and indebted to the charity of neighbours for the shelter of a roof beneath which to hide their own heads and those of their children during the ensuing winter. (Hear, hear.) And what aggravated the injury and injustice was this: that for all the industry, labour, and capital invested by these men in permanent improvements of the land, and of the houses on the land, they received no adequate compensation, and in many instances no compensation whatever. (Cheers.) I wish to guard myself as I have always guarded myself, carefully when speaking on this subject, here or elsewhere, against being supposed to bring sweeping and indiscriminate charges against all Welsh landlords, or against all Conservative Welsh landlords. I stated before what it gives me pleasure now to repeat, that there were some Conservative landlords, who acted a perfectly fair and honourable part, and gave their tenants to understand beforehand that they were entirely at liberty to follow their own views and feelings in the disposal of their votes. And there were others, a much larger number, who though they strained their influence to the utmost before and during the election, yet afterwards, though their party may have suffered defeat, scorned the mean revenge of inflicting material injury or ruin upon poor men who had been guilty of no offence but a courageous fidelity to their political convictions. (Cheers.) But there were others, for whom I feel no respect, and to whom I

owe no quarter, who did unquestionably use their power as owners of the soil to punish men who have dared to exercise their own judgment and conscience in the discharge of a duty devolved upon them by their country. (Hear, hear.) These events produced great agitation and excitement in Wales, and a fund was started which ultimately reached to nearly 4,000L, not to compensate these men for what they had suffered—for how can you compensate a man whom you take and pull up by the roots from the land on which he has lived all his life, and turn him and his family homeless and helpless on the world?—(hear, hear)—but as an expression of sympathy from their countrymen, and as affording some temporary succour to them in their distress. And the best proof of the genuineness and reality of the cases was this—that by far the most liberal contributions to the fund were made in the immediate neighbourhoods where these cases had occurred, and where all the facts and circumstances were intimately known to the contributors. Some allusions have been made to these events in Wales during the debates on the present Bill. The right hon. gentleman the member for New Shoreham, whom I regret not to see in his place, stated that sometimes changes of tenancy took place owing to bad farming and other causes which were attributed to political reasons. "It is notorious," continued the right hon. gentleman, "that such was the character of many cases in Wales of which much political capital was made at the last election." Now as these evictions took place since the election it is not easy to see how political capital could have been made out of them at the election. But I should like to have asked the right hon. gentleman where was it notorious that such as he described was the character of the evictions in Wales. It may have been notorious in Sussex. But I can assure the House that the reverse was notorious in Wales. There hundreds of thousands of people believe as firmly as they believe anything that these tenants were expelled to punish them, and to warn others to beware of rebelling against the authority of their landlords in political matters. If I am asked what proof I have that the evictions took place for political reasons, my answer is this:—I may not be able to produce technical legal evidence such as would suffice to convict an offender in a court of law. The men who do these things take care not to bring themselves within reach of the law. (Hear, hear.) They do not write on the back of their notices to quit, "You receive this because you voted for Mr. Such-an-one, or refused to vote for Mr. Such-another." But when we find men evicted who had been, or whose ancestors had been, in occupation of the same land for 20, 40, 50, 80, 100, and, in one instance that came within my knowledge, for 200 years unmolested—when we find men evicted who had punctually paid their rents to the uttermost farthing, against whom no complaints had ever previously been made, either as respects the quality of their husbandry or the fulfilment of their covenants with their landlords—when we find among them men who were universally acknowledged to be among the best farmers in the neighbourhood—and when we find this taking place immediately after a hotly-contested election during which every species of influence was brought to bear upon these men by their landlords, and their landlords' wives, and their landlords' party to induce them to vote in accordance with their landlords' wishes—including in some cases a very distinct menace of what would befall them if they refused compliance—when we know that all these solicitations were resolutely resisted, and that the notices to quit followed in due course, I say I have evidence enough to carry moral conviction to every rational and impartial mind that these men were turned out of their farms not because they were bad farmers, but because they were honest men who had a conscience, and who dared to exercise it in the discharge of their political duties. (Loud cheers.) And the same thing is still going on. Last year and this year two fresh batches of tenants had been expelled. I should like to state these facts of the House. ("No, no," and cheers.) Hon. gentlemen on the front bench below the gangway cry, "No, no;" but they at least have had their innings sufficiently often during these debates, and have no right to be impatient with us on this side. (Hear, hear.) I will state these facts in the language of a most competent witness, an intelligent gentleman who lives in the immediate neighbourhood where the events occurred, and who has taken great pains to acquaint himself with all the circumstances. I must, however, premise that there is this peculiarity about these cases, that the estates to which I refer are in Chancery, and the injunctions for dispossession are alleged to have been issued by that Court. It is impossible to believe that the Court of Chancery could have used its authority or suffered it to be used as an instrument of political persecution. I hope that the statement of the facts in this House will lead to some explanation. Last year there were five tenants evicted on an estate. ("Name, name.") The name of the estate is Llanfair. These are the circumstances. In March notices were served upon the tenants with assurances that it was simply the usual step attending revaluation. In the course of the summer the advance in rent was announced, coupled with a wish that the tenants should proceed with their farming operations as usual, inasmuch as they were to have the first offer. Within some six weeks of Michaelmas a message was sent round that the Court had instructed the receiver that these five farms were not on any terms to be re-let to the old tenants. They were, therefore,

passed never to return which they may be disposed to call the good old times, but which I call times of ignorance and darkness, when landlords could expect to summon and lead their tenants to the poll in servile subjection, as the feudal chief could summon his armed retainers to the battle-field. Anything, therefore, that would take out of their way the temptation to attempt the impracticable would be an advantage to all parties. It would remove the occasion of a good deal of bitterness and bad blood; it would, to use a celebrated expression of Dr. Chalmers, sweeten the breath of society, and establish harmony between classes of the community, harmony between whom is essential to the well-being, the security, and the prosperity of the country. (Cheers.)

## DEATH OF MR. CHARLES BUXTON, M.P.

We greatly regret to state that Mr. Buxton died suddenly at Locearnhead Hotel, near Killin, Perthshire, on Thursday morning last. He had been in bad health for some time previously, but alarming symptoms set in only a short time before death. Dr. Todd, of Killin, who was called in, attributes his death to atrophy of the heart.

The youngest son of the late eminent philanthropist, Sir Thomas Fowell Buxton, by a daughter of the house of Gurney, of Norfolk, Mr. Buxton was born at Cromer, in that county, in the year 1823. He was educated at Trinity College, Cambridge, where he closed his undergraduate course by taking with his B.A. degree a second class in classical honours, together with the mathematical distinction of a junior optime. He did not enter Parliament until the general election of 1857, when he was returned for Newport, in the Isle of Wight, in the Liberal interest, and as a supporter of Lord Palmerston, who had appealed to the country upon his policy with respect to China. Two years later he wooed and won the larger and more important constituency of Maidstone, which he represented for six years without intermission. In 1865, at the general election, he was returned, along with Mr. Locke King, as M.P. for East Surrey, after a very severe struggle against Mr. H. W. Peel and the Hon. William Brodrick, now Lord Midleton. He was re-chosen at the last general election by a majority of about 400 votes. It will be remembered that Mr. Buxton was an active member of the celebrated "Jamaica Committee," which was engaged in supporting the charges of misgovernment of that island by the Governor, Mr. E. J. Eyre; and his labours on this subject both in and out of Parliament will not be readily forgotten. He was also one of the earliest and most zealous supporters of the volunteer movement, and was indefatigable in his command as Lieutenant-Colonel of the 1st battalion of the Tower Hamlets Rifles. He was a magistrate for his native county and also for that of Surrey, in which he owned a property at Fox Warren, near Weybridge. Mr. Buxton distinguished himself also as a man of letters, being a writer in the *Cambridge Essays* and a reputed contributor to the *Saturday Review*. The most popular work of his pen, however, is his biography of his distinguished father, on whom fell the mantle of Wilberforce, as the antagonist of the slave-trade and the reformer of our penal code. Mr. Buxton himself was a philanthropist, and there was scarcely a measure of educational progress and reform which he did not advocate and support both in and out of Parliament. A handsome tribute was paid to his memory and to his personal worth in the House itself on Friday night by Mr. R. N. Fowler, M.P., who sits on the Opposition benches. It only remains to add that Mr. C. Buxton married in the year 1850 Miss Emily Mary Holland, a daughter of Sir Henry Holland, who survives him, by whom he has left a youthful family.

## THE CHOLERA IN EUROPE.

On Saturday last forty persons were attacked at Königsberg by cholera, nineteen deaths occurring from the epidemic on the same day; on Sunday thirty-eight were seized and sixteen died. The police authorities have ordered that no vessel will be allowed to leave the port of Königsberg without having its crew medically examined. The deaths in that town for the week ending the 11th inst. numbered forty-four, fifteen being children under eleven years of age. The persons attacked by the disease belong almost exclusively to the lower orders of society; the disease is generally attributable to want of food and cleanliness. Hardly any of the middle or upper classes have been attacked.

At Neufahrwasse some cases of cholera had occurred on board ship. Dantzig is still untouched. The authorities have taken the most stringent measures to prevent its being imported. The news that cholera had broken out at Elbing is unfounded.

The police authorities in Berlin have taken the most stringent precautionary measures against the approach of the cholera.

The St. Petersburg correspondent of the *Standard* gives some important particulars respecting the cholera in Russia. From its first appearance on the 29th of August, 1870, there have been in St. Petersburg 6,817 cases, and 2,797 deaths. In Moscow and its environs the epidemic is of a very malignant character, and in some of the remote villages, where medical assistance is difficult to obtain, it has committed fearful ravages. Since the 13th March there have been 3,568 cases in Moscow, and 1,643 deaths.

According to a Constantinople telegram cholera and fever are reported to continue raging in Persia. The corporate authorities of most of the large towns are taking precautions against cholera, especially in the seaports.

At the present moment special importance attaches to Mr. Simon's (just issued) report to the Privy Council on the public health. In his concluding paragraphs he is specially emphatic on the necessity of early and effective legislation, putting pressure on, and giving increased powers to, local authorities. The unamended state of our sanitary laws is, he urges, not only an extreme difficulty and discouragement to persons engaged in sanitary administration, "but also involves a large and constantly increasing waste of human life." It is to little purpose that sanitary science is progressing, and that the means of preserving health and life are constantly increasing. The sanitary laws are so inoperative that "almost month by month the contrast becomes more and more glaring between the little which is done, and the very much which, with amended laws, might be done, to reform the sanitary circumstances of the masses of our population." The result of this state of things, according to Mr. Simon's calculation, which he says "seems certain," is that the deaths which occur in this country are fully a third more numerous than they need be if our knowledge of the chief causes of disease were "reasonably well applied." He estimates the average yearly number of preventable deaths in England and Wales at about 120,000. But this fearful waste of life by no means represents the whole evil. For every unit which appears unnecessarily in the death register there is a larger or smaller group of other cases, in which preventable disease has produced "far-reaching" ill effects on life.

The fact that there was not a single criminal case for trial at the present Flintshire Assizes, speaks favourably for the orderly character of the Welsh people.

**THE VACANCY FOR EAST SURREY.**—The Liberals for East Surrey are anxious to avoid any demonstration till after the funeral of their late lamented member, Mr. Buxton; but it is announced that a candidate of a high position in the county will be ready. Mr. Leveson Gower, formerly M.P. for Reigate, will be their candidate. The *John Bull* states that the Conservatives will contest the seat.

**ANOTHER MEETING IN HYDE PARK.**—About 5,000 persons, a considerable number of whom were Irishmen, attended the meeting held in Hyde Park on Sunday evening to protest against the conduct of the Irish Executive with regard to the recent meeting in Dublin. Letters were read from Sir C. Dilke, M.P., Mr. P. A. Taylor, M.P., Mr. R. M. Carter, M.P., and others, approving the objects of the meeting. Mr. Odger, who presided, said they were not met to discuss the principles of Fenianism, but to protect and maintain a public right. He asked how better could the Government be made acquainted with the feelings of the people than by having those feelings openly stated at public meetings? It was better to meet openly and discuss a grievance than to conspire in secret to obtain a removal of that grievance. But if the Irish people were not allowed to meet in public, there was nothing left for them but secret association. The men of London were determined to maintain the right of public meeting both for themselves and their Irish brethren at all risks and hazards, and woe be to the Government who dared to tamper with that right under whatsoever pretence. The meeting having been addressed by Mr. Charles Wade, Mr. Hennessy, Mr. Davis, Mr. O'Leary, and others, resolutions were passed condemning the conduct of the Irish Executive.

**IMPROVED INDUSTRIAL DWELLINGS.**—The sixteenth half-yearly meeting of the shareholders of the Improved Industrial Dwellings Company was held at the Mansion House on Friday afternoon, Alderman Sir Sydney H. Waterlow presiding. From the report of the directors, it appeared that the rents during the half-year amounted to £8,444, and that the expenditure was upwards of £4,000, leaving a profit of £4,291, from which the directors recommended a dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum. Since the last meeting the directors had negotiated for leases of three important sites. The first is in George-street, Grosvenor-square, granted by the Marquis of Westminster, on which a block of dwellings is being erected to contain accommodation for 38 families; the second is in Goswell-street, Clerkenwell, granted by the Marquis of Northampton, on which two blocks of buildings are being erected to contain accommodation for 48 families; and the third is in Crab-tree-row, Shoreditch, near Columbia Market, granted by the Baroness Burdett Coutts, on which five blocks of dwellings are being erected to accommodate 112 families. These buildings, when completed, will afford accommodation for 1,000 persons, and the cost will be about £22,000. It is hoped that a portion of the buildings will be ready for occupation at Christmas next, and that the whole will be occupied before Midsummer, 1872. The directors are also in negotiation with the Marquis of Westminster for the lease of an additional site in Ebury-square, Pimlico, which will enable them to extend Ebury-buildings, and give accommodation for about 300 persons. A dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum was agreed to, in accordance with the recommendation of the directors; and at an extraordinary meeting, held subsequently, a number of paid-up shares were converted into stock.

## Postscript.

Wednesday, August 16, 1871.

## FRANCE.

PARIS, Aug. 15.

The Extreme Left, after having provoked and approved the proposition for the prolongation of M. Thiers' powers, are now suspected of an intention to thwart the measure. It is, therefore, supposed that the Conservative party will offer a compromise upon which the proposition may receive their support.

The following important additional article is expected to be moved when M. Rivet's proposition for extending the powers of M. Thiers comes on:—"The President of the Republic communicates with the Assembly by means of messages. He is entitled to speak in the Assembly whenever he desires."

The reply relative to the acceptance of the conditions for the evacuation of the four departments has not yet arrived, and there is reason to believe that difficulties have arisen in Berlin in regard to the arrangements said to have been entered into between General Manteuffel and M. Pouyer-Quertier.

## YESTERDAY'S PARLIAMENT.

In the House of Lords yesterday evening, The Epping Forest Bill, the Metropolis Water Bill, the Turnpike Acts Continuance Bill, the Local Government (Ireland) Bill, and other bills were read a second time. The Merchant Shipping Acts Amendment Bill went through committee, and their lordships adjourned at half-past five.

In the House of Commons which sat at three o'clock, Mr. W. E. FORSTER in answer to Mr. Denman, stated that the case of cholera reported in the *Times* by Dr. Edmunds, as having occurred near Portland-place, had turned out not to be cholera.

The report of supply was agreed to, and the Appropriation Bill was brought in amid considerable cheering.

On the Lords' Amendments to the Army Bill being again taken into consideration, Mr. FAWCETT delivered a powerful speech against the resort to prerogative, to which the ATTORNEY-GENERAL replied. Mr. VERNON HARROD followed in an effective and critical speech, sharply assailing the Solicitor-General's doctrine that the Crown alone had authority over the army. The direct reverse was nearer the truth, as he showed in an elaborate historical review of the relations of Parliament and the army from the time of the Stuarts. The issue of the warrant Mr. Harcourt cordially supported, because he conceived it to be founded on a statutory power given by the Act of 1809, and he agreed with the Attorney-General in describing it as a simple withdrawal of the exemption from the penalties of the Act which the purchasers of commissions had hitherto enjoyed.

Mr. GLADSTONE, in an elaborate speech, pointed out that to have proceeded by Warrant at first would have assumed that the House of Commons of its own authority could compensate persons who had habitually broken the law. From 1809 there had been a statutory power in existence, authorizing the Queen to permit a certain thing which she now had declined to permit. There was a precedent for proceeding by Prerogative after appealing to Parliament in 1840 in a proceeding relating to coolie emigration. Of course it was a grave proceeding, but the great justification was the impossibility of otherwise putting a stop to the flagrant and crying evil of over-regulation prices.

The discussion was wound up by Mr. M. TONKIN, who repeated his strenuous condemnation of the Government, and pointed significantly to the absence of Sir Roundell Palmer all through this controversy. The Lords' Amendments were then agreed to.

The Vaccination Act (1867) Amendment Bill was read a third time and passed, an attempt to strike out the clause relieving a recalcitrant from further penalties after he has been fined 20s. being defeated by 57 to 12.

There was a short discussion on the second reading of the bill to amend the Glebe Loan Act of last year, which was objected to by Mr. Lea, Mr. Kinnaid, Mr. Anderson, and others; but it was carried on a division by 54 to 34.

Mr. BRUCE announced the withdrawal of the Prison Ministers Bill, which was received with strong expressions of indignation by Mr. Downing and Mr. Maguire. The Petroleum Bill and several other measures were forwarded a stage, and the House adjourned at twenty minutes past two o'clock.

## MARK-LANE.—THIS DAY.

The grain trade to-day was again greatly depressed. Transactions were restricted, and prices throughout had a declining tendency. English wheat came sparingly to hand, but from abroad the arrivals were liberal. Sales in all descriptions were effected slowly at prices favouring buyers. Barley was quiet, and prices were barely sustained. Malt was dull, and drooping in value. There were good supplies of oats, which changed hands quietly at about Monday's reduced rates. Beans and peas were difficult of disposal, on former terms. Flour was dull and cheaper to sell.

## ARRIVALS.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Malt.	Oats.	Flour.
English & Scotch	300	—	450	—	—
Irish	—	—	—	—	—
Foreign	19,900	5,820	—	36,780	2,310 lbs.

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## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"J. H. T." CAMBRIDGE.—We cannot interfere in the matter, which is one for purely local discussion.

"J. A." CHELTENHAM.—The verses he sends are very apropos and just in sentiment, but we believe their publication might involve an action for libel.

"S. L."—His lines are hardly pointed enough, nor can we see adequate reason for them.

B. C. S.—His letter only reached us just before going to press.

## The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16, 1871.

## SUMMARY.

THE question whether the *de facto* French Republic is to become a Republic *de jure* has at length been brought forward, and not a moment too soon. M. Thiers is, on many important points, at issue with the majority of the National Assembly, and his frequent threats of resignation are a sign of the peculiar difficulties of the situation. On Saturday last M. Rivet, a member of the Left Centre, made a formal proposition in the Assembly that M. Thiers should be named President of the Republic and hold office for three years, unless the Assembly should be dissolved before that time; in which case it would be at the option of the new Assembly to make another arrangement. This was met by a counter-proposition from the Right that the present state of things should continue. The Chief of the Executive thought that as the subject had been mooted both motions should be considered urgent. The Monarchists were taken aback by this declaration, and being too timid to vote against M. Thiers, allowed the proposal to be carried in the affirmative. Before the week is closed the whole subject will be under discussion in the Assembly. There cannot be much doubt that M. Rivet's motion, put into a more definite form, will be carried by a large majority, and M. Thiers be elected President of the French Republic.

The two great potentates of Central Europe have been spending several days together at the baths of Ischl, a charming watering-place in Austria, and the interview is spoken of by the Vienna official organ as a visible mark of the friendship existing between the two Sovereigns, a new pledge for the continuance of these fortunate relations, and a happiness "for the peoples of both empires, which are joined together by a mutual interest in peace and a mutual need for unity and friendly relationship." By crossing the frontier and frankly accepting the hospitality of a brother Sovereign with whom, five years ago, he was waging a terrible war, the Emperor William gives proof that he is averse to the German propagandists in Austria, and that he is by no means ready to take sides with the Czar against the Kaiser. It seems that Prince Bismarck and Count von Beust will this week join their respective Sovereigns at Gastein, and that the principal subject of deliberation will be the condition of Roumania, and the repudiation of her railway bonds, which are chiefly held by German capitalists.

Parliament is making every effort to close the session on Monday next. By sitting continuously from four o'clock on Monday last till four a.m. next morning, the Commons disposed of various troublesome questions—such as the grant for carrying out the provisions of the Contagious Diseases Acts, the opposition to

which was unsuccessful—and the Supply votes were concluded. Yesterday the Appropriation Bill was brought in, and the debate on the use of the Royal Prerogative for the Abolition of Purchase in the Army brought to a close. The discussion thus raised by Mr. McCullagh Torrens will not be without advantage, though the leader of the Opposition was absent and no division was taken. The course taken by the Government was ably defended by the Attorney-General and Mr. Gladstone. The former showed clearly enough that the issue of the Royal Warrant was legal and constitutional and expressly provided for by statute law. The Prime Minister forcibly vindicated the act on the ground of imperious necessity. "We did not," said Mr. Gladstone, "weigh lightly the censure of the House of Lords, but there is an authority higher than the House of Lords, and which resides in the public opinion of the country. Our justification with that opinion will be that we sought by legal means to put down a flagrant violation of the law, we were fortified by the opinions of the law officers of the Crown, and with the aid of the statute law we sought to put down a practice which we believed to be alike fatal to the authority of the law, and injurious to the best interests of the country." This debate, it need hardly be said, took place in a very thin House. Mr. Disraeli has retired to his country seat, and the majority of members on both sides are away grouse-shooting on the moors, or recruiting their health at the seaside or at the German baths.

According to universal expectation, the Lords rejected the Ballot Bill on Thursday by the comparatively large majority of 49 in a House of 145 members—two to one. Not half the members of the peerage were present, and the Government were deserted by a number of the Whig magnates who, like Lord Lyveden, refuse to accept the Ballot as an article in the Liberal creed. There was little discussion on the merits of the bill—its opponents taking their cue from Lord Shaftesbury, who moved its rejection avowedly on the ground that there was no time to consider its provisions, though he did not hesitate to speak of the measure as "a vile monstrosity." The serious warnings given by Lord Romilly, the Lord Chancellor, and Earl Granville to their brother peers against refusing to give up a fortnight to consider a measure of vital importance because they wanted to go to their amusements in the country, were unheeded, but they will not be forgotten by the country.

In his last weekly return, the Registrar-General gives a very satisfactory report of the public health. Smallpox is rapidly subsiding, and notwithstanding the great heat, the fatal cases from diarrhoea in London were only fifty above the average; nine-tenths of the whole being infants, and only thirty-one children and adults. The premonitory symptoms which herald the approach of cholera are therefore hardly perceptible, and do not warrant the attempts which have been made to excite alarm. Though that epidemic prevails with some severity at Konigsberg, it has not extended to Dantzig or Berlin. Hardly a case has occurred in families where ordinary precautions and cleanliness are observed. The most stringent measures are being taken at our seaports on the eastern coast to exclude the unwelcome visitor, and the Privy Council have issued a series of instructions to medical men and the public for warding off cholera, the main feature of which is the necessity of great precautions relative to the supply of water. "If," as the *Times* says, "all efforts were concentrated on the task of keeping the water pure, we need not fear the air."

## REJECTION OF THE BALLOT BILL BY THE LORDS.

NOTHING which has been done by the House of Lords in late years will tell so heavily upon the future of that institution, as its rejection of the Ballot Bill on Thursday last. The act itself, the manner of it, and the avowed grounds on which it was done, were alike impolitic, unjustifiable, and calculated to bring into contempt the legislative authority and privileges of the Upper House. To the last moment, men found it difficult to believe that the Conservative majority of that exalted assembly would carry out their threat. The public had been informed that there had been a meeting of the obstructive section of the "political" peers, at which a resolution had been adopted to throw out the measure, but it gave no very serious heed to a report to that effect which was not supported by unimpeachable authority. It seems, however, that its doubts were based upon no solid ground. The Lords made short work with Mr. W. E. Forster's bill. Ninety-seven peers to forty-eight refused to discuss it on its merits.

There is, consequently, an end of it for the present year, and the sanguine hopes of its author have been blighted. The result is of less importance than are its inevitable sequences. It is but temporary—they will be permanent.

Had the rejection of the measure followed a serious discussion of its main principle, the act would have been open to grave reprehension. It could not have been denied indeed that the upper branch of the Legislature had acted on its constitutional right, although it might have been maintained that it had exercised its right in an inconsiderate spirit. Secret voting is but a means to an end which in regard to legislation is but itself a means. Its sole object is to secure such a choice of representatives as would be determined by the uncorrupted and unrestrained will of the electorate. It aims to reduce to practice what is already the understood and recognised theory of the Constitution. It touches the relation of the two Houses one to the other at no point. It modifies the mechanism by which the mind of the constituent body may make itself known, but it neither enlarges nor diminishes the body itself, nor affects the tenor of its political opinions. It is therefore especially a question for the Commons, and it relates, indirectly only, to the constitution even of the more popular assembly. We do not urge that the Lords were bound to give effect to the wishes of the Commons on such a question, under any and all conceivable circumstances, but they were bound, in the event of their refusing to do so, to assign the weightiest reasons for their refusal. It was certainly their duty to object, if at all, with delicacy, tact, and forbearance, and not until after solemn and searching discussion. To avail themselves of their co-ordinate position to make light of such a measure, legitimately endorsed by a large and persistent majority of the People's House, is to invite discussion as to how far they appreciate their own position, and with what further conditions they should be allowed to retain it.

The act upon which we are animadverting was ill-advised, but the manner of it was still more culpable. The debate on the bill in the Lords was unworthy of their reputation. It was continued but for a few hours. It evaded the whole question. It was light, loose, and wanting in dignity. But few peers took part in it, and it was evident that they did not care to do it justice. The aspect of the gilded chamber during the discussion was as dreary as long ranges of unoccupied benches could make it. Even the division revealed in the paucity of its numbers the lack of earnestness with which the measure was received into, and bowed out of, the Hereditary House. All this was in the worst possible taste. It showed that a very daring act was done without any commensurate recognition of responsibility. There was a wantonness of mischief about it which gave it an air of puerility. The Upper House did not solemnly throw down its gage to the Lower, but snapped its fingers at it with an *insouciance* indescribably provoking.

But the ground on which the deed was done was by far the most foolish part of the proceeding. It amounted to this, that grouse shooting has attractions for the members of the Hereditary Chamber which the loudest calls of constitutional duty are powerless to counteract. The lateness of the season, forsooth, is pleaded for throwing away without examination what had cost the House of Commons two months of hard and incessant work, what they had sent up endorsed by seventy majorities, and what, if they had been so minded, the Lords might have got through in less than a fortnight. As our contemporary, the *Spectator*, has very forcibly put it—"They are invested with precedence in society, are exempted in all serious cases from jurisdiction in Her Majesty's courts, and are entrusted with the extravagant power of annulling all the work of the representatives of the country, in order that they may improve legislation, and they assert that they will not take the trouble; that out of lives which are one long holiday, they will not devote one month to work which the Government, the Commons, and the electors demand should be performed." Certainly their wages—for their privileges are wages—far transcend their performances. Necessity for recreation is the least excuse they can plead. It will not serve them with the country, which, of course, will ask of what use it is to place men in a political position which tempts them to regard themselves as too high for responsibility, and which makes them too selfish and idle for public work.

Any one, however, may see at a glance that the excuse put forward by the Lords for the rejection of the Ballot Bill is only a dummy intended to conceal the actual state of the case. They are strongly inimical to secret voting. They know that it will cut away much of the political influence which landlordism brings to bear

upon the formation of the House of Commons. Until lately, they have managed to guide legislation by securing the election of a representative House, imbued with their own spirit. The ballot threatens to deprive them of all but the legitimate influence of their social position. Under it they will have to convince and persuade where they now command. The prospect does not please them; yet they will have to face it next session, and that under the most adverse conditions which their own folly could devise. "When the bill, substantially the same as at present," says the *Echo* of Monday last, in "taking stock" of the session, "reappears in the Upper Chamber, the plea of *non possumus* cannot be entered, while the plea of *nolumus* will be impossible. The real battle of the Ballot is at an end. The fight is, as the Americans say, all over except the shouting."

#### OUR MILITARY IMBROGLIO.

To the very last, questions connected with our military forces are engaging the attention of Parliament. Some of them naturally arise out of the delayed Army Estimates; others seem to be mooted with the express object of worrying the War Office and casting odium on Mr. Cardwell. A prodigious stir has been made because the Government have abandoned the scheme of a fortnight's campaigning on the Berkshire downs during the coming autumn, during which some 30,000 troops of all arms were to have gone through a series of military manoeuvres. For this has now been substituted exercise on a more limited scale in the district around Aldershot which will, to a great extent, answer the same purpose, without costing so much money. "Our control system"—which by the way is managed by civilians—"has collapsed," was the professional cry. "England cannot put a small army in the field in time of peace. Such is our military administration."

Now we do not excuse the Government for having so hastily changed their plans in this case. It was but another sign of that weakness which induced them, in the first instance, to accept the Berkshire scheme. Surely they had a good and sufficient answer to those who were clamouring for these grand manoeuvres in the field. It might have been urged that the army was in a transition state—that the question of purchase, the keystone of the present system, had not yet been settled—that the reorganisation of our military forces had hardly as yet commenced—and that the nation might reasonably be saved from extra heavy expense in a year during which it had been called upon to spend no less than sixteen millions upon the army, besides paying an instalment to military officers for the abolition of the purchase system. Ministers have suffered the usual fate of the weak and the irresolute. They have pleased neither friends nor foes, and have suffered all the loss of moral influence that arises from sudden change of purpose.

If the explanations of Mr. Cardwell and Sir H. Storks do not satisfactorily account for the abandonment of the Berkshire plan, they throw a flood of light upon our Horse Guards administration. For such autumn manoeuvres in Prussia the cost is very moderate, owing to the few *impedimenta* required by the officers. But in England it is different. The movements of 30,000 would here require an immense transport service. It would have to carry tents, camp equipage, ammunition, water, fuel, food, forage, horse rugs, cooking utensils, entrenching tools, and many other things. This is an age of luxury, and apparently our military officers would expect in a camp on the downs all the comforts of town life. Now if we are to make real preparations for war, it is only reasonable that our officers should accept the actual conditions of campaigning, and not imitate the example of the officers of the French Imperial army in carrying all kinds of superfluous luxuries with them into the field, at an enormous cost to the country, and without advantage to discipline. For the rank and file, whatever provision might be made, the experience of a fortnight's camping out in the fall of the year on the Berkshire Downs would be necessarily trying, and we are not surprised that the War Office have finally hesitated to expose them to such hardships without adequate necessity.

If our defensive forces, after the enormous sums and care which have been lavished upon them, are so inefficient as is described by "army colonels," it is time that it should be ascertained who is at fault. This is the all-important question for the public. No one is deceived by the grossly unfair attempt to cast all the blame on the Government; for the present state of things has been the growth of many years. What the people of England will hardly fail to

note is that every effort of Mr. Gladstone's administration to obtain better service at least cost from the profession has been met with a howl of indignation, which increased rather than diminished when some three millions were added to the Army Estimates in the spring. The more Ministers have tried to reorganise our military forces, the louder have been these protests. Their Army Bill, which abolished the purchase of commissions, and placed all branches of the service under the control of the War Office, was so obstructed in the Commons that a session was wasted, and so unceremoniously rejected by the Lords, that the Prerogative was brought into action to sustain the decision of the people's representatives. Yet we find these same bitter partisans sneering at all Mr. Cardwell's efforts to give unity and greater efficiency to our defensive forces, and accusing him of producing chaos in the army.

All this only tends to convince sensible people that the purchase system is, in truth, "a spider's web of vested interests," which needed to be abolished before there could be any real army reform. The cry for more expenditure will now happily be unheeded. The country is too heavily weighted to bear more of this senseless extravagance, and no got-up panics will, after the experience of this session, produce much effect. We want value for our lavish expenditure on the British Army. The country will have to pay very smartly in the way of compensation to officers of the line for the loss of their exclusive privileges; and the right it has purchased will not be surrendered to interested clamour. It will rather ask with Mr. Trevelyan why British taxpayers should have to pay 20*l.* for the officering of every man in the army, or at the rate of two and a half millions per annum, in order that the service may be an attractive lounge for the scions of our aristocracy and wealthy *parvenus*. They will not, we are satisfied, be turned aside from claiming the reforms they have paid for by the outcries of the "army colonels."

#### THE LATE MR. CHARLES BUXTON.

ENGLAND has not such a plethora of good men that she can lose one of them without feeling that the void which death creates is not easily filled up. When a man like Charles Buxton dies, in the prime of manhood and the plenitude of intellectual power, it is not easy to estimate the magnitude of the loss which the country sustains. When an active, exemplary, and patriotic career is cut short in its meridian, we have not the consolation of knowing that the labourer has reached the limits allotted to human life. Charles Buller, Sidney Herbert, even Richard Cobden, are instances of English worthies who have died before their time; and now Charles Buxton, whose age was only forty-eight, must be added to the number. He never held office; he never spoke in the House of Commons except when he had something useful to say; he never courted popularity or intrigued for place and power. His position was simply that of a private member of Parliament; and yet many statesmen have passed away without exciting a fractional part of the regret which Mr. Buxton's death has excited in thousands of English homes. The fact is a notable one, and merits serious reflection on the part of our public men who grasp only a bubble and call it fame.

There was one characteristic of Mr. Buxton's public life which was specially noteworthy. He bore a name which was distinguished in the annals of philanthropy. A monument in Westminster Abbey perpetuates in marble the transcendent public services of Sir Thomas Fowell Buxton. The record of the father is also the record of the son. No man could have been more true to his hereditary obligations, or could more fully have justified the graceful tributes which were paid to his memory by Mr. R. N. Fowler and Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen in the recent debate on the Polynesian slave-trade. The reason was that his heart was always in the cause which his father espoused, and that, without fanaticism, he inflexibly adhered to that great law of Christian morality upon which all human rights are based. The influence of such a man was not to be measured by the frequency with which he spoke on subjects of this kind, or by the munificent aid which he rendered to the public movements that attracted his sympathy. His name itself was a protest against oppression, especially the oppression of the weaker races of mankind. It could not be spoken or printed in any part of the world where slavery in any one of its diverse forms was practised without at once suggesting the idea of hostility to injustice, and recalling the fact that there were inheritors of that name who continued to vindicate its claim to a foremost place in the ranks of philanthropy.

Surely this is high praise. For a son to gather up and honourably wear the mantle of an illustrious father, is an event so rare as to be unique in history; and we think it justifies a more than ordinary feeling of regret when he who has set so admirable an example of fidelity, has been prematurely summoned to his rest. What is it that prevents the virtual re-establishment of slavery even in some British colonies? It is the influence of England; but that influence would soon lose its active force if men like the late Charles Buxton ceased to bestir themselves on behalf of suffering humanity in distant regions, or sought to gather laurels in a more attractive field of labour.

We might expatiate upon this theme; but it is enough for us to point to what Mr. Buxton did in connection with the now historical labours of the Jamaica Committee. Five years ago there was the greatest danger that, owing to a system of misrepresentation which was never equalled except in the worst pro-slavery times, the moral sentiment of this country would be perverted and perhaps destroyed by the aristocratic defenders of "the reign of terror" in Jamaica and their allies in Parliament and the press. It was not merely the fate of the negro which was at stake. The morality of England trembled in the balance. West India planters and officials—or rather the more active representatives of that class—not only aimed to obtain condonation for the Jamaica massacres, and to secure honour and preferment for the champion who had given effect to their policy, but they desired to make the execution of Mr. Gordon and all the other horrors which had been perpetrated under the sanction of martial law a precedent, and to drag down Great Britain to a level with the Government offices of Kingston and the military courts at Morant Bay. The Jamaica Committee was organised, with Mr. Buxton at its head. Its legal agents, who were sent to the colony, rescued the truth from mystification; and all the hideous facts of the so-called insurrection were brought to light and marshalled before the Royal Commission. The prosecutions which were subsequently undertaken admittedly failed to accomplish their immediate object; but the cause of truth and justice was amply vindicated by the searching exposure which took place, and the nation was saved from that vital injury to its moral sense and to its position in the civilised world with which it was threatened. It demanded moral courage of no common order to withstand the shameful clamour, begotten of malignity and ignorance, which was raised against the leading members of the Jamaica Committee. That moral courage Mr. Buxton exhibited; and the day will come when, in this matter, the world will do him full justice. It is true that he dissented from the criminal prosecution of Mr. Eyre and Brigadier Nelson, and for a time withdrew from the Committee, but it is equally true that when that body ultimately had recourse to civil proceedings he again identified himself with it and made another splendid contribution to its funds. Nor must it be forgotten that this courageous step was taken on the eve of a general election; that his opponents confidently hoped that by raising the cry of the baffled Jamaica faction they would ensure his defeat; and that at the same critical period he framed a bill of indictment against a weak and cruel colonial administration which has never been, and never can be answered. That indictment, which was drawn up with masterly skill and conciseness, constitutes one of the most terrible series of charges which it has ever been the fortune of any man to draw up against either a government or individuals. Mr. Buxton, in spite of invective and denunciation, was returned by a triumphant majority—thus proving that the heart of the people was sound, even when many of their professed guides were doing their utmost to lead them astray.

We have dwelt upon this episode in Mr. Buxton's career, because it illustrated the civic virtues of the man, and because such an example of fidelity to the highest conception of public duty ought never to be forgotten. We pass over his other services—many and varied as they were—for the sufficient reason that they are widely known and appreciated. We decline to enumerate the points upon which we differed from Mr. Buxton. It is enough to know that, setting an example to men of social rank and fortune, his life was one of laborious exertion for the public good. It was not spent in luxurious ease, or in the pursuit of self-seeking aims. On the contrary, it was consistently devoted to the welfare of his country and of his race; and surely, therefore, he is one of the departed worthies to whom may be applied the lines of Wordsworth:

The feather whence the pen  
Was shaped that traced the lives of these good men  
Dropped from an angel's wing.

## MEN AND THINGS IN AMERICA.

(By a *Coemopolitan*.)

## THE CITY OF THE MILLS.

Americans love to invent synonyms for their cities and States. Thus, Massachusetts is "the Old Bay State," New York "the Empire State," Connecticut "the Yankee State," Vermont "the Green Mountain State," New Hampshire "the Granite State," Ohio "the Buck-eye State," Wisconsin "the Badger State," Indiana "the Hoosier State," Virginia "the Old Dominion," Kentucky "the Dark and Bloody Ground," Pennsylvania "the Quaker State," Texas "the Lone Star State." Washington is "the city of magnificent distances," New York "the Empire City," Philadelphia "the Quaker City," Boston "the American Athens," Chicago "the Garden City," Cincinnati "the Queen City of the West," Cleveland "the Forest City," Syracuse "the Saline City," New Orleans "the Crescent City," Rochester "the Flour City," and so on *ad infinitum*.

Cohoes, which from its manufactures is called "the City of the Mills," is a town of about 16,000 inhabitants, romantically situated on the Mohawk River, in the eastern part of New York State. Near here the navigation of the Hudson River commences. The Cohoes Falls are justly celebrated for their extent and beauty. Tom Moore, after he had visited them, remarked that in his day there was—

A dreary and savage character in the country immediately above these falls, which is more in harmony with such a scene than the cultivated lands in the neighbourhood of Niagara. . . . The fine rainbow which is continually forming and dissolving as the spray rises with the light of the sun, is perhaps the most interesting beauty which these wonderful cataracts exhibit.

The "harmony" Moore admired has now disappeared, and has been succeeded by large cotton-mills, which singularly enough are named "Harmony Mills," after Peter Harmony, one of their founders. Moore wrote the following beautiful poem on the "Cohoes, or Falls of the Mohawk River":—

From rise of morn till set of sun  
I have seen the mighty Mohawk run,  
And as I marked the woods of pine  
Along his mirror darkly shine,  
Like tall and gloomy forms that pass  
Before the wizard's midnight glass:  
And as I viewed the hurrying pace  
With which he ran his turbid race,  
Rushing, alike untir'd and wild,  
Through shades that frowned and flowers that smiled.  
Flying by every green recess  
That wo'd him to its calm caress,  
Yet, sometimes turning with the wind,  
As if to leave one look behind!  
Oh! I have thought, and thinking sigh'd—  
How like to thee, thou restless tide!  
May be the lot, the life of him,  
Who roams along thy water's brim!  
Through what alternate shades of woe,  
And flowers of joy thy path may go!  
How many a humble, still retreat  
May rise to court my weary feet,  
While still pursuing, still unbrest,  
I wander on, nor dare to rest!  
But urgent at the doom that calls  
Thy water to its destined falls;  
I see the world's bewildering force  
Hurry my heart's devoted course  
From lapse to lapse, till life be done,  
And the last current cease to run!  
Oh, may my falls be bright as thine!  
May Heaven's forgiving rainbow shine  
Upon the mist that circles me,  
As soft, as now it hangs o'er thee!

The origin of the name of Cohoes we have seen explained in the following Indian legend, quoted from the "Sentimental American Traveller":—

Many years since, an Indian and a squaw having made too free with the bottle, were carelessly paddling along the Mohawk in their canoe. On a sudden, perceiving themselves drawn by the current and hurried down the stream to the dreadful cataract, looking upon their fate as inevitable, they composed themselves to die with resolution, in a manner worthy their ancestors. They drank the last dregs of the intoxicating cup and began the melancholy death song. Occuna was dashed into pieces against the rocks; his faithful consort escaped, but by what miracle has never been known. The Indians of their tribe have preserved this incident by faithful tradition, and as often as any of them pass the fatal spot they make a solemn halt and commemorate the death of Occuna.

From this legend the falls are said to have been named by the Indians Cahooa, signifying "the fall of the canoe," and this in time became changed to Cohoes. The scenery surrounding the city is very beautiful, and is diversified by mountains, valleys, woodlands, and a fine river. The following bird's-eye view, copied from the *Albany Morning Express*, is an excellent description of Cohoes:—

The elevated plateau a short distance south-west of the Harmony Mills is an eligible point from which to enjoy a charming bird's-eye view of Cohoes and the surrounding country. Standing upon this elevation, which is the most commanding within the limits of the city, and looking northward, the winding Mohawk with romantic scenery is plainly visible for miles, and presents a picture from Nature's portfolio which laughs to scorn the most studied and highly coloured effort of

the artist. Cohoes with its noisy manufactories lies directly at your feet. Then you take in Troy, Lansingburgh, and Waterford at a glance, while a southerly view reveals the tall and glistening spires of Albany with the dimly defined Catskill Mountains for a background.

With all the advantage it possesses in land and water communication, Cohoes seems destined for a great commercial future. Its immense water-power facilities, which, according to the local paper, are at present only employed to the extent of one-fourth of their capacity, give the city a pre-eminence of its own which nothing can injure.

The manufactures of Cohoes include extensive cotton and knitting mills, foundries, axe factories, rolling mills, pin factories, and bedstead works, while other branches of industry are expected to be opened ere long. Shortly after we arrived we were told that the Harmony cotton mills were "the largest in the world"—a palpable exaggeration, although they are doubtless among the largest in America. Some of the Americans were greatly astonished when we described to them the gigantic mills of Sir Titus Salt, at Saltaire, and others. They appeared ignorant that we were so far "advanced" in England.

The Harmony Mills are certainly well worthy of inspection. Their outside appearance is ornate, and their inside arrangements are designed to promote the comfort of the workpeople, as well as to utilise the whole of the space at command. The machinery is all of the newest and best. The mills furnish employment to over 3000 hands, of whom a large proportion are females. Feminine America sees nothing derogatory in working in a mill, and the young ladies who are thus employed are far superior in education, manners, and, above all, morals, to the mill girls of England. The proprietors of the Harmony Mills have provided a large room, excellently furnished, for the use of their *employés*, in which there is a good library and an organ. It is used for a Sunday-school, and also as a place of meeting for temperance and other societies. One of the mills bears the curious name of "Mastodon Mill," in honour of a mastodon which was found on its site in 1866, and which is now a respected member of the museum at Albany. It is stated that the aggregate number of spindles now running in the Harmony Mills is greater than those used by any other single firm in any one locality in the United States.

Cohoes has the honour of having introduced the knitting business by machinery into the United States, and it now produces one-third of all the hosiery manufactured in the Union. This branch of industry finds employment for a large number of operatives of both sexes.

There are two weekly newspapers in Cohoes—the *Democrat*, representing the Democratic party, and the *Cataract*, representing the Republican party. The latter is a very good local paper, and has a fair circulation. It contains a considerable portion of well-selected matter, and a few original articles. Some of its items of local news are, to say the least, curious to an Englishman, as, for instance, the following:—

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT.**—Our sanctum has been made fragrant by the perfume from a generous present of sweet oranges direct from the South, for which we are indebted to our kind friend Mr. S. G. Root, who, on Thursday received a quantity of the delicious fruit from "ye absent Andrew," who has been luxuriating among the oranges in the balmy climate of Palatka, Florida. He evidently enjoys a good thing himself, and likes to have his friends participate with him. Doubtless there are many English editors who would be glad to be held in remembrance in a similar way to the editor of the *Cataract*. This paper has a neat way of "touching up" defaulting subscribers:—

Peter F. Daw, Deputy United States Marshal of the Northern District of the State of New York, and Dr. W. Van Steenburgh of this city, and many others, are respectfully informed that their bills for printing, &c., await payment at this office.

A friend informs us that in a western town creditors go so far as to hang out at the entrance to stores, notices like the following:—

**FOR SALE.**—A debt owing by John Smith, of Brown-street, amounting to — dollars. Offers solicited.

This is said to be a very effectual remedy against bad payers.

While Cohoes has been prospering commercially, its religious interests have not been neglected, and there are spacious edifices devoted to the use of Methodists, Presbyterians, Episcopalians, the Dutch Reformed Church, Baptists, and Roman Catholics. These bodies have multifarious agencies at work for the extension of religion among all classes, young and old.

A large proportion of the population consists of French Canadians, who are held in no great favour, as they are said to be willing to work for less remuneration than other people. There are also Irish-

men, Scotchmen, and Germans in considerable numbers. A workman can earn two to three dollars, and a young woman may in various ways earn a dollar to a dollar and a half, a day. It is said that this rate of wages, owing to the French Canadians, is lower than prevails in other manufacturing cities.

The present prices of provisions in Cohoes are as follow:—Flour (better than the best English), 2s. 2d. per stone. Butter, 1s. 4d. per lb. Milk, 4d. per quart. Potatoes, 12s. per bushel. Mutton, 6d. per lb. Beef, 6d. per lb. Cheese, 10d. per lb. Pork, 7d. per lb. Veal, 6d. per lb. Tea, 4s. to 6s. per lb. Coffee, 9d. to 2s. per lb. Sugar, 6d. to 9d. per lb. Apples, 3s. 6d. per bushel. Currants and raisins, 9d. to 1s. per lb. Carrots and turnips are very cheap. The American meat is very much inferior to that of England, and at first seems tasteless and insipid; but strangers soon find the piquant dishes served with it reconcile them to parting with the "Roast beef of Old England."

## THE INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION.

## THIRD ARTICLE.

The Educational portion of the Exhibition is of a very interesting and instructive character, illustrating in a variety of ways the increased attention bestowed upon improved educational appliances in Europe and the United States. School furniture forms a conspicuous feature in this department. We have forms and desks of almost every possible description and shape—all designed with the view of affording the utmost comfort compatible with the maintenance of school discipline. Among these is a portable school desk, the same as that used in the French Army Schools. It is worn by a string over the left shoulder, and is made of wood and slate; there being a receptacle for books, paper, ink, pens, and pencil. The wholesale price of these desks is about eighteen-pence each. The cost of many of the desks and forms may seem heavy compared with that of those in ordinary use, yet considering their strong and durable character they will be found the cheapest in the long run, as they are certainly the most convenient. There are also drawing-desks, blackboards, easels, lesson-stands, pointers, ink-wells, and other school appliances, all of the most improved kind. These are all exhibited in one of the galleries of the Royal Albert Hall, where also may be seen a small Japanese model of a school desk. It is exhibited by Sir John Bowring, and resembles a pedestal table. There are drawers containing examples of writing implements, the whole affording a curious picture of the state of educational progress in Japan. Sweden, however, furnishes the most perfect display of school furniture. The Swedish commission have erected in the grounds on the west side of the exhibition building a wooden building, of somewhat picturesque appearance. This is intended as a model of a Swedish school house, and is filled with specimens of Swedish school furniture and school appliances. It is, perhaps, one of the most interesting features in the exhibition.

Of educational apparatus and literature there is a vast assortment. Every leading educational publisher in Europe is represented here. Several of the elementary works are very good, but many are imperfect in details. England takes a strong position, but Hungary occupies the foremost place as regards the number of works exhibited—one publisher alone, William Laufer, of Pesth, displaying no less than 329 volumes; another publisher of the same city contributing 168 volumes. In fact, Pesth seems to be one of the great educational centres of Europe. Sweden rejoices principally in maps and Bibles. France is not represented at all, and Germany but very feebly. As we glance over the various educational apparatus, we cannot fail to be struck with the indications of progress everywhere observable. We have here before us the various methods of teaching fine arts, natural history, physical science, and music; each department being rich in appliances of the most complete and comprehensive character. Among the contributors are two associations concerning which we should like to know a little more. These are the Society for Promoting the Education of the People in Sweden, and the Royal Board for Artisan Schools in Wurtemberg. The English exhibitors considerably outnumber their continental rivals in every department, especially in natural history and physical science, in which the high excellence of most of the articles shown conveys a favourable notion of the present state of upper and middle class English education. It seems to be essentially practical. The collections suggest also another idea. There is evidently no lack of educational means or facilities in this

country; what is wanted is to bring them more easily within reach of the masses. The elements of every description of practical education are to be found here, and could these be utilised by our various School Boards, we might possess the most perfect educational system yet devised. But it would cost money.

One portion of the Educational Exhibition is of a most peculiar character; we refer to the collection of English and foreign toys, which has been the subject of much undeserved ridicule and unfavourable comment—it being apparently forgotten that toys really form portion of a child's education. Here we find toys of the ordinary character—dolls, skipping-ropes, shuttlecocks, and so forth, but we find also something more. For instance, there are dolls' patterns, intended to teach little girls to cut out and work; model building-bricks, dissected globes, models of tools, kindergarten toys, historical and geographical games, tool-chests, collections of apparatus for illustrating magnetism, optics, mechanical powers, &c., or for practising wood-engraving, &c. Even in the toys proper there is a change from the familiar objects of other days. The old Noah's Ark, with its quaint wooden figures, has disappeared, and become replaced by boxes of animals exquisitely modelled and coloured in imitation of nature. And so with the dolls. The simple doll of a past generation will not suffice for the children of the present day, who will not be content unless their waxen idols are fitted with chignons, panniers, and high-heeled shoes. There are costly wardrobes of dolls' clothing, no less expensive sets of dolls' tea-things, and equally costly houses of dolls' furniture. But these, we fear, are apt to beget habits of extravagance and love of finery. A complete doll's establishment would cost from 40L to 50L. But such infantine luxuries are more common in France than in this country. The toys in which the juveniles of the sterner sex take delight are principally of a military character. Most of these are clever imitations of the real implements of warfare. The wooden swords and guns of other days have become replaced by weapons of a more realistic description. The swords are of steel, and the guns are fired with percussion caps. Then there are cannon, helmets, breast-plates, and military accoutrements of almost every kind. Formerly France was the principal manufactory of these toys, but of late years Germany has taken the lead. A rather significant fact this.

Specimens of school work are not wanting. Nearly every leading educational institution in the kingdom is more or less efficiently represented by examples of the labours of the pupils belonging to the same. These institutions include Army Schools; Art and Science Classes; Night Schools; Institutions for the Blind, and for the Deaf and Dumb; Elementary Schools; Grammar, middle-class and similar schools; Industrial Schools; Reformatory Schools; and Convict Prison Schools. The most perfect examples of practical education are those afforded by the leading middle-class schools, but the character of this portion of the Exhibition is such as to convince us that whatever may be the deficiencies of our educational machinery, the average quality of the instruction actually afforded is of a far higher standard than the results of recent inquiries would lead us to believe. The educational portion of the International Exhibition certainly deserves a larger portion of public attention than it has hitherto received. We have the means; the only question is, how shall these means be employed? If not too late, we would suggest that a committee, composed of members belonging to the various School Boards, should be appointed for the purpose of reporting on the educational collection, with the view of ascertaining how far it might be utilised for the purpose of affording instruction and means of comparison to those entrusted with the education of the people. Why should we not have an educational museum? Could not the City of London School Board take some steps to prevent the collection from being dispersed? Certainly we ought to do something to save it.

The Sydney Mint has begun to issue sovereigns which are like the English coin.

The *Athenaeum* announces that Col. George Cheaney is the real writer of the "Battle of Dorking," of which 200,000 copies have been issued within two months. A French translation will be published by Henri Plon.

Mr. Charles Childs, of Bungay, is printing a very full dictionary of dates compiled by the late Mr. Woodward, Queen's Librarian. It will contain 1,200 pages of closely printed matter. A new journal, devoted to bibliography and manuscripts, will appear in October, under the name of the *Librarian*.

## Foreign and Colonial.

### FRANCE.

In the French Assembly on Saturday, the motion was brought forward that M. Thiers should be named President of the Republic and hold office for three years, unless the Assembly should be dissolved before that time; in which case it would be at the option of the new Assembly to make another arrangement. This was met by a counter proposition brought forward by a member of the extreme Right, to the effect that M. Thiers should continue to hold office on the same terms as at present—viz., in virtue of the powers conferred on him at Bordeaux. M. Thiers then rose and expressed his thanks for the confidence placed in him, and begged the Assembly to examine and decide upon both motions without delay. He should consider that their confidence in him had diminished if they did not do so. There was great excitement at this, and the sitting was suspended for twenty minutes. It was ultimately decided that both motions should be examined by the committees on Thursday. A Legitimist then proposed that the Assembly should not dissolve before making a definitive Constitution. After a good deal of uproar, the House refused to regard the motion as urgent. The correspondent of the *Pall Mall Gazette* thus describes the excitement of the Assembly:—

The proposition itself was received without creating any excitement, the Chamber being already acquainted with its clauses. But lo! M. Adenet arose and made a counter proposition to the effect that the Chamber, satisfied with M. Thiers, confirms him in the powers conferred upon him at Bordeaux, and, like M. Rivet, demanded urgency. In M. Adenet's proposition everything is vague, indecisive, and there is no mention of the Republic. M. Thiers was taken aback by this move, but with great skill he averted a storm which was on the point of bursting. He rose and thanked the Chamber for its sympathy, and the authors of both the propositions, and suggested that the demand for urgency should be admitted in either case, and the two propositions submitted to the consideration of the same committee. The tumult which had been appeased for the moment recommenced in consequence of the irritation manifested by the Right, and the Chamber broke up into angry groups, which shouted and gesticulated quite regardless of M. Grévy and his bell, whose tinkling was no longer heard. The Due de la Rochefoucauld ascended the tribune and tried to speak, and, unable to make himself heard above the uproar, wrote down what he wished to say and handed the paper to the President, who, after several abortive efforts, was at last able to inform the House that the Duke proposed an adjournment for a few minutes. The Left cried "No," the Right vociferated "Yes," and the tempest recommenced. At last M. Thiers was permitted to speak, and he recommended a few moments' reflection, and at four p.m. the Assembly broke up for twenty-five minutes to consider over matters as coolly as possible. When the Chamber reassembled urgency was voted unanimously for both propositions! M. Belcastel then produced another storm with a fresh proposition to the effect that the form of government should be reserved, and that the Assembly should not be dissolved until that form was decided upon. Urgency was again demanded, and the question was put to the Chamber. M. Grévy took the sense of the House by the sitting and standing up process, declared that the noes had it, and this decision greatly irritated the Right, which protested noisily. M. Grévy explained that he had consulted the secretaries before delivering judgment, and that four out of the six had agreed with him. M. de Castellane, one of the secretaries, then protested, and mixed up the name of M. Thiers in the debate. M. Thiers protested snapishly, disturbance again reigned, and the President was with difficulty prevented from asking for a vote of confidence. Altogether there was a pretty good scrimmage, which will be renewed when the prolongation question will be again brought forward. The hostile parties are very evenly divided.

It is expected that the French Assembly will adjourn for the holidays at the end of the present month.

On Friday the Municipal Council of Paris unanimously voted the loan of 350 millions of francs proposed by the Prefect of the Seine. The Council will now suspend its sittings until the Assembly has authorised the loan, when it will again meet, and decide upon the manner in which the money is to be raised.

Arrests still continue in Paris, but the statement that as many as 711 persons were apprehended in one district of the city alone on Wednesday and Thursday last is contradicted. It is stated that during the past week 132 persons have been arrested in Paris, and of these only fourteen were implicated in the Communist movement.

The Committee on the Budget has finally rejected M. Pouyer-Quertier's 20 per cent. *ad valorem* duty, and seems inclined to adopt M. Casimir-Périer's scheme for a tax on various sources of income. M. Thiers refuses to submit on the 20 per cent. question, which he intends bringing before the Chamber. Before the committee he urged the necessity for formidable armaments. He desires to have at least 140 regiments of infantry, with a normal effective of 500,000 men. His plans will necessitate new sacrifices. Before the Chamber M. Thiers set down the extra expenditure at 480,000,000f., but the Committee declares that 600,000,000f. will be needed to do all M. Thiers requires; and as the various departments whose expenditure was to be cut down by a million refuse to part with that sum, and as a supplementary credit of another million has been demanded by the War Minister, instead of 480,000,000f., no less than 800,000,000f. is required

for these formidable armaments, for fear France should have to go to war.

It is said that negotiations have been opened between the Governments of Versailles and Berlin, with the view of arranging for the complete evacuation of French territory by the end of the present year.

### AUSTRIA.

The Emperor of Germany on his way to Gastein was received on Friday at the railway station of Wels by the Emperor Francis Joseph. After a cordial greeting on both sides, the two Sovereigns entered the same carriage and continued the journey to Ischl, where the Emperor William intends paying a visit to the Imperial family of Austria. At four o'clock on the previous afternoon the Emperor William had met the King of Bavaria at Schwandorf. The King was received by the Emperor, we are told, with a cordial embrace. On their arrival at Ratisbon, at six o'clock in the evening, both monarchs proceeded to the Golden Cross Hotel, where the King stayed for a quarter of an hour, and then took his departure. The city of Ratisbon was gaily decorated, and the rejoicing of the people was great. The vocal societies sang patriotic songs in front of the Emperor's hotel, the burgomaster leading off with enthusiastic cheers in honour of the Emperor. A torchlight procession, in which the fire brigade participated, closed the proceedings.

The *Official Evening Post*, in an article concerning the interview between the Emperors of Germany and Austria, says:—

This meeting, as a visible mark of the friendship existing between the two Sovereigns, and as a new pledge for the continuance of these fortunate relations, possesses also a high value for the peoples of both empires, which are joined together by a mutual interest in peace and a mutual need for unity and friendly relations.

The article expresses the wish and hope that the political relations of the two countries may reflect the personal relations of the Sovereigns, and that therefrom may arise a lasting and sure European peace, and the undisturbed development and welfare of both empires.

An Imperial patent has been issued dissolving the Lower House of the Reichsrath, and ordering fresh elections to be held. Another of the same date dissolves the Provincial Diets of Lower and Upper Austria, Salzburg, Styria, Carinthia, Moravia, Silesia, and Tyrol. A third patent has been issued, convoking for the 14th of September the Diets of all the kingdoms and provinces represented in the Reichsrath.

### FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

It is stated that the vine disease is making great ravages amongst the grapes in Portugal this season.

Prince Humbert is expected shortly to pay a visit to his brother the King of Spain, and subsequently to his sister the Queen of Portugal.

Lord Kimberley has informed Lord Belmore, Governor of New South Wales, that the English Government declines to annex or to protect the Fiji Islands.

It is announced that the opening of the Mont Cenis tunnel will take place on the 17th of September. A train has gone over the line between Bussoleno and Bardonneche with perfect success.

The Empress Eugenie has written to her niece, the Duchess of Mouchy, a severe letter with respect to General Trochu. She accuses the general of basely betraying his sovereign, and of greatly aggravating the misfortunes of France.

**PROBABLE ABOLITION OF SLAVERY IN BRAZIL.**—A Rio telegram of July 23 communicates the gratifying intelligence that the bill for the emancipation of the slaves was read a second time in the Chamber of Deputies on the previous day, the Government having a majority of twenty-five.

**NEW PLANET.**—The discovery of a new planet is announced from America. Professor C. H. F. Peters, of the Lichfield Observatory, Hamilton College, has found a small planet, the 114th in the group of asteroids. Its magnitude is estimated between 12 and 13. It does not seem to have been named as yet.

**A COURAGEOUS WOMAN.**—In the Munsterthal, on Monday last (says a Swiss paper), a farmer's wife found a young bear at the door of the cowhouse, making violent efforts to get inside, attracted, probably, by the smell of the milk, of which these animals are very fond. Seizing a stake which lay close by, the woman courageously attacked the animal, and after a violent struggle, in which she got severely bitten, succeeded by a well-directed blow on the head in knocking it senseless to the ground, and before it could recover, killed it with a blow from a hatchet.

**A ROMAN MONUMENT.**—We learn from a Roman correspondent that the municipal authorities of that city have decreed the erection of a national monument in commemoration of the unity of Italy fulfilled, with Rome for the capital. The monument is to be raised in the centre of one of the great piazzas of the new quarter of Rome, but the expense is not to surpass 20,000L. All artists may send in models, the merits of which will be judged of by a commission named for the purpose, who will inspect the works on the 1st of October, 1872. A prize of 400L will be awarded to the best model, and 120L each to the second and third best.

**THE POPE.**—The Pope has written a letter to the Marquis Cavaletti, president of the committee formed to offer him the title of Pius the Great and a throne

of gold. His Holiness refuses the title during his lifetime, and suggests that the money subscribed for the throne should be employed in purchasing exemptions for seminarists from military service. The Pope has addressed an Encyclical letter, couched in moderate terms, to the Catholic Episcopate, in which his Holiness thanks the faithful, and specially the bishops, for the demonstrations of all kinds made on the occasion of his Pontifical Jubilee; he also urges them to pray for the freedom of the Holy See, the triumph and tranquillity of the Church.

STATE OF JAMAICA.—Advices from Jamaica state that much excitement had been caused in Kingston by the report that the negroes in St. Thomas-in-the-East had risen in rebellion. A large body of constables were sent off to the spot, and an express was despatched to the commander of the forces, then at Falmouth. A day or two afterwards it transpired that these measures had merely been taken by way of precaution, and had been decided upon some time before, in consequence of disturbances being apprehended in connection with some trespass cases that were being tried in the district court. Up to the departure of the English mail, however, on the 10th July, no disturbances of any kind whatever had occurred.

TERRIBLE VOLCANIC ERUPTION IN THE MALAYAN ARCHIPELAGO.—The *Times of India* says that a Batavia paper gives particulars of the dreadful calamity which occurred a few months ago at Tagulandang Island, one of the Sangir Group. It appears that, on the 3rd of March last, an outburst took place from the volcano Ruwang, on that island, which was accompanied by a seaquake; the sea thereupon rose to a great height, and a gigantic wave about forty Dutch yards high suddenly rushed on the island, sweeping away before it human beings, cattle, houses, and everything else. 416 (another account says 300) persons perished, amongst whom was the Rajah of the island, and only three houses were left standing. Almost all the survivors fled to the bush, where they still were by last accounts. The bodies of the dead were lying about, making the air foul, from want of hands to bury them. On the 14th of March the volcano cast out flames and lava, which destroyed most of the cultivated land. The wretchedness and distress of the surviving population is said to be great, and the need of help pressing. The Sangor Islands lie to the north of Mendoao.

THE LATEST NEW YORK SCANDAL.—A controversy has arisen between the *New York Times* and the Tammany Hall politicians, which has been carried on with intense bitterness, and has created quite a stir. The *New York Times* charges wholesale stealing from the City Treasury by the city officials, who are all Tammany democrats, and publishes long arrays of accounts to prove it, showing how millions of dollars have been expended for trivial services, while the Mayor and Controller have audited the accounts, and at the same time calling them "thieves," and daring them to contradict the charges made. In reply, the Mayor and Controller and their newspapers do not directly deny the accounts, but they declare that they were "surreptitiously obtained;" that they were the accounts of an old and irresponsible City Government which was the predecessor of the one created by the present city charter; that the publishers of the *New York Times* had profited as much as any one else by the frauds of the Treasury, being paid excessive sums for advertising; and that, their bills being now refused payment, they bring these charges out of revenge. The revelations made attract much attention both in and out of New York, and the *New York Times*, boldly keeping at its work, is not frightened either by the exposures or the threats of the corrupt Tammany Ring.—*Times Correspondent.*

#### THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

The sittings of the British Association were brought to a termination on Wednesday. The General Committee has resolved to make application to Government for a grant of 2,000/- to assist in defraying the expense of observing the eclipse of the sun, which will take place in December next. The intended observations are to be made in India and Ceylon. The council was requested to take such steps as they might see fit to establish a meteorological station at the Azores. The total number of tickets sold for the Edinburgh meeting was 2,463, and the money received 2,575.

We give a short summary of some of the principal papers and discussions:—

#### IS OUR GLOBE SOLID?

On the 5th, in Section A, Sir William Thomson read the report of the Tidal Committee for the year. This was, generally speaking, of a very technical character, but it contained an interesting passage with regard to the degree of elastic yielding which the solid earth experiences under the tide-generating influences of the sun and moon. It is quite certain that the solid earth does yield to some degree. It has long been a favourite assumption of geologists that the earth consists of a shell of solid rock from twenty to fifty miles in thickness, enclosing an interior filled with melted material, lava, metals, &c. This hypothesis is now shown to be absolutely untenable, because, if it were true, the solid crust would yield with almost as much freedom (on account of its thinness and great area), as if it were perfectly liquid. Thus the boundary of the solid earth would rise and fall under the tide-generating influences,

so as to leave no sensible differences to be marked by the water rising and falling relatively to the solid; showing that if the earth as a whole had an average degree of rigidity equal to that of glass, the tides would be very much diminished from the magnitude which they would possess on a perfectly rigid globe, with water like that of our seas upon it. This consideration, the committee reports, makes it probable that the earth has considerably more average rigidity than a globe of glass of the same size. The mathematical calculation shows a somewhat startling result, to the effect that a globe of glass of the same size as the earth, if throughout exactly of the same rigidity as glass on a smaller scale, would yield like an india-rubber ball to the tide-generating influences, thus leaving very little opportunity for change in the relative heights of water and land. The precise agreement of the actual tidal movement with estimates founded on the supposition of a perfectly rigid globe, renders it probable that the earth is in reality vastly more rigid as a whole than any specimens of surface rock that had been experimented upon in laboratories.

#### THE MANUAL LABOUR CLASSES.

In Section F (Economic Science and Statistics) Mr. WILLIAM TAYLOR, F.S.S., read a paper "On the Manual Labour Classes of England, Wales, and Scotland." Having given the aggregate of the census, he proceeded to divide the manual labour classes in the kingdom into three classes, giving an estimate of their numbers and earnings. The first class he described as the higher skilled in labour and manufactures, the second as the lower skilled in labour and manufactures; and the third, agricultural and unskilled labourers. The estimated number of these classes in England and Wales, inclusive respectively of men, boys, women, and girls, was, first class, 1,178,000; second class, 4,009,000; third class, 2,957,000; total, in England and Wales, 8,144,000. The estimated annual earnings of each class, less all deductions for sickness, want of work, &c., was as follows:—First class, 59,000,000/-, being from 60/- to 73/- to each man; second class, 134,500,000/- average for men, 46/- to 52/-; third class, 73,500,000/- average for men, 20/- to 41/- The total earnings by the labouring classes in England and Wales reached the enormous total of 267,000,000/. The author gave similar statistics as to the numbers of the labouring class in Scotland, and their earnings. In the higher skilled class the total number was 145,000; lower skilled class, 580,000; agricultural and unskilled labour, 431,000—total, 1,556,000. The earnings in Scotland, less same deductions as in England, were as follows:—First class, 6,760,000/- from 56/- to 68/- 10s. for men; second class, 17,200,000/- 41/- to 48/- for men; third class, 8,850,000/- 16/- 10s. to 32/- for men. The total earnings of the labouring class in Scotland were 33,810,000. The author went on to say that next to the important revelation made by these figures was what related to the habits and social condition of the humbler classes, and the measures for the prevention of the use of ardent spirits—matters which ought to engage the ability of statesmen and the wisdom of the Legislature. He referred to the opening up of a wide field of education in the establishment of a school board in England, as a step in the right direction. From the interest now taken in promoting education in Scotland, it was to be expected that great progress would be made in this part of the kingdom also in the matter. He next referred to the dwellings of the poor and the sanitary condition of towns, and the endeavours to effect improvement in that direction. Noticing the subject of marriage, the author stated that among skilled labourers the usual habit was to marry as soon as they terminated their apprenticeship; but among the unskilled many entered into the bonds of matrimony at a still earlier period, so that very early in life many of them had large families dependent upon them. Of all labourers, the farm labourers received the lowest rate of money wages, yet even among them the members in a family far exceeded the average for the kingdom. It was a sad fact, that in the United Kingdom as much as 89,000,000/- a year was expended in ardent spirits, 58,000,000/- of which was spent by the working classes. There were cases in which a working man, earning 25/- to 30/- a week, spent upwards of 5s. a week mostly for his own gratification. The author next referred to the importance of nutritious food. Oatmeal, which was much used in Scotland, had flesh-producing powers, and the labourers who used it were capable of much harder work than those of the southern counties, where the watery potato formed the chief aliment of the peasantry. The author concluded by suggesting that the British Association should offer a purse, to be competed for and awarded at their next meeting, for the best essay on the most economical and efficient principles of improving the diet of the labouring classes.

The paper excited an animated discussion, in which Sir John Bowring said that it was highly important to know not only what the people earned, but also how the earnings were expended. This was shown in the Parisian returns; and it would be very desirable to know how much money was devoted to instruction, clothing, and food. Miss Lydia Becker spoke in assertion of the claims of her sex to the special consideration of statisticians and all other persons; and Mr. Crossley crowned the debate by saying that there ought to be a law to enable wives to spend the money of their husbands.

#### THE LAPPS.

In Section D (Anthropological Department) Dr.

RICHARD KING read a paper upon the Lapps. Lapland, he said, is in Europe, and the Laplander is the only European who in any way presents the Arctic type of cranium. The position of the Lapps in classification is still an open question. Isaac Vossius says the Lapps are of low stature, and that pygmies exist among them. They are very lean, have thick heads, prominent foreheads, hollow eyes, short, flat noses, and wide mouths. Their hair is thin and short, their beards straggling and scarcely covering the chin, in which respects they agree with the Esquimaux. The hair of both sexes is black and harsh, the chest broad, and the waist slender. They are swift of foot and very strong, so that a bow which a Norwegian can scarcely half bend they will draw to the full, the arrow reaching to the head. Their usual exercises are running races and climbing rocks and high trees. Although nimble and strong they never walk upright, having contracted a habit of stooping in their low huts. They were originally Pagans, full of superstition, believing in magic and omens, and worshipping their deity Jumala in a kind of enclosure without roof, constructed in some dense wood. Christianity was introduced among them in 1277, in the time of Ladislaus Magnus; but it differed from Paganism only in name until the foundation of a school by Gustavus Adolphus in 1631. To this school the Lapps owe their knowledge of the Christian religion; and many eminent persons have been bred there. The marriage customs of the Lapps are worthy of note. The intending bridegroom first seeks for a maiden well dowered with reindeer. Accompanied by his father and other friends, who are to intercede for him, he proceeds to the hut of the lady, and waits at the door until summoned. His best man addresses the lady's father, describes the strong affection of the aspirant, and asks consent to the marriage. If all things go smoothly, the couple meet and kiss—any kiss in which their noses do not touch being considered a failure. The suitor next offers presents, such as reindeer tongue, beaver flesh, and other delicacies; and the acceptance of these by the lady is the expression of her consent to the marriage. If she rejects her suitor, she casts down his presents at his feet. The completion of the preliminaries and celebration of the wedding are often deferred for a considerable period, in order that the family of the bride elect may squeeze the bridegroom to the greatest possible extent. The day before marriage the relations and friends of the bride and bridegroom go to the bride's hut to deliver their presents. All things being arranged, they proceed to church, and are married according to the Christian rite. The bride is led by two men, her father and brother if alive, otherwise by two of her nearest relations. She is dragged to church by them showing sadness and dejection, and expressing the greatest unwillingness to be married. A wedding feast follows, to which every guest contributes his share of provisions. If the hut is not large enough to contain the company, some, mostly boys and girls, climb upon the roof and thence let down a fishing line to hook up the food. The married couple must remain a year in the service of the bride's father; after which they set up for themselves. The father then transfers to his daughter the reindeer which are her due, given to her in her younger days, also furniture, and a dowry of a hundred or more reindeer. The Lapps are generally a moral people. It is unlawful to marry too near in blood, and polygamy and divorce are unknown. They are very desirous of having children, but are not prolific, and scarcely any family numbers more than three. A newly-born infant is wrapped up in a hareskin. At the end of a fortnight it is baptized, and mothers will undertake long and tedious journeys, over mountains and through woods and marshes, in order to bring their infants to the priest. In summer the child is tied to its cradle, and then put into a pannier on the back of a reindeer. It is named after some relative or friend, and the name first given is often changed to that of some deceased friend whose memory it is wished to preserve. Mothers who cannot nurse their children feed them with reindeer milk with a spoon, but fostering is not practised. Soon after baptism the parents bestow a female reindeer upon a female infant, and engrave her name on its horns, so as to avoid all quarrels about the ownership. When the girl cuts her first tooth she receives a second reindeer, which they call Pannikeir, or tooth deer; and whoever first discovers the tooth is entitled to a reindeer calf. In case of the death of parents the nearest relative becomes guardian.

THE ALLEGED DEGENERATION OF RACE IN BRITAIN.

A paper by Dr. Beddoe on this subject was read at Edinburgh. He observed that looking at the matter *a priori*, one would say that in some classes and in some districts it is not unlikely that some improvement may be taking place. Some of the conditions of life are improved and improving—for example, in the upper class of townspeople, who are, on the whole, more healthily lodged, and perhaps less sedentary, than they used to be. The Factory Acts have checked the deteriorating agencies of our manufacturing system. The peasantry of some parts of Ireland, the Highlands, and Wales, may be better fed than they were a generation back. It does really seem as if the cottars of Cardiganshire had improved in physical development since the last century, when they are described by a traveller as five feet two or three inches high, whereas now they are not a remarkably small people. But on the whole, I much fear that the conditions, the media—the *milieux*, as the French anthropologists call them—which act on

the physique of the British, tend rather to grow worse than to grow better. To begin with these is the one great and inevitable evil—the gradual accumulation of our people into large towns, and often even absolute dwindling of the rural population. Large numbers of people are constantly being employed in indoor occupation, mostly sedentary, and some nocturnal and exhausting; and the demand for the labour of women and children also increases. Changes are taking place in the dietary of the working classes, and, as their wages rise, it seems to be supposed that they are better fed, but on closer investigation this seems doubtful. Of the four countries—England, Wales, Scotland, and Ireland—the first, which is the richest, and considered to be the most advanced in material civilisation, and whose habits and modes of life are more and more imitated by the others, is, according to Edward Smith's reports on the subject, the one in which the people are most scantily and ill-nourished. The scarcity of milk, especially as to its supply to children in towns and in dairy districts, is a growing evil, and one of national importance. Here I may mention, as having probably a relation to the quality of the food, and possibly to this very defect of milk, the apparently growing evil of unsound teeth, which, again, seems to advance *pari passu* with the advance of material civilisation, and is worst among the English and the townsmen of the United States, not so conspicuous among the Scotch, and decidedly at the minimum among the Irish. Certain changes in the process of natural selection, as it operates on our people, seem to me to be, on the whole, detrimental to the standard of physical type. Emigration drains away large numbers of the stronger and more energetic young men from the best of our districts; so do the military and civil service in India; and the voids are supplied to a less extent than they used to be from the rural population, wherein the rates of marriage and of birth are much less than in that of the towns. The classes that yield the largest number of births are, beginning with the least important—1st, fishermen; 2nd, miners, especially coal-miners, and the like; 3rd, the proletariat of large towns. Whatever may be said of the two former, this last and most important is, physically, about the worst developed in the kingdom. In his further remarks the Doctor dwelt on the importance of ascertaining facts bearing on the subject.

#### CUTTINGS FROM OUR AMERICAN EXCHANGES.

The intellectual capacity of the negro is beginning to be admitted down South. The following is a remarkable extract from the report of the visiting committee of Atlanta University, Georgia, most of whom are Democrats, the chairman of the University being ex-Governor Brown, one of the most influential politicians of the South:—

At every step of the examination we were impressed with the fallacy of the popular idea (which, in common with thousands of others, a majority of the undersigned have heretofore entertained) that the members of the African race are not capable of a high grade of intellectual culture. The rigid tests to which the classes in Algebra and geometry, and in Latin and Greek, were subjected, unequivocally demonstrated that under judicious training, and with persevering study, there are many members of the African race who can attain a high grade of intellectual culture. They proved that they can master intricate problems in mathematics, and fully comprehend the construction of difficult passages in the classics.

There are now five ministers of the Methodist Church in Utah. The church at Salt Lake City, organised May 24th, 1870, has a membership of 51; that at Corinne of 13; that at Evanston of 9. Total 100. There are five Sunday-schools, with an aggregate enrolled membership of 400. Three day schools are sustained, having 200 scholars enrolled.

An expedition is about to be sent out by the Coast Survey, under the charge of Professor Agassiz and Count Pourtales, to explore the sea at great depths in the Southern Atlantic and along the Pacific coast.

The new remedy for cancer is exciting much interest in America. Amongst those who have derived great benefit from it is the mother of the Vice-President of the United States. Mr. Colfax thus himself writes on the subject:—

I am glad to be able to tell you that mother is really on the high road, apparently, to perfect cure, although she has taken only about quarter doses of the Cundurango, in consequence of its scarcity. When we left Washington, in April, her case was absolutely hopeless, cancer growing fearfully and angrily. Now the tumor is three-fourths gone, and apparently diminishing; pain almost gone, and every symptom favourable. Since the first fortnight she has had only quarter doses, and now has none. She is more like herself than she has been for years. How it cures or affects cancer I cannot imagine. I know how incredulous many doctors are about it, and I would be too if I had not seen its results. It seems to depurate from the blood whatever it is that causes cancer, and I don't know what that is any more than I know why Peruvian bark cures ague.

It is understood that an agent was some time since sent to procure further supplies of Cundurango, but, as the district is remote where the wood grows, some time must elapse before they can arrive. Meanwhile the Government is fruitlessly importuned by multitudes for the remedy.

Here is a paragraph from a Hartford (Connecticut) paper that comes near to the Scriptural prophecy about turning swords into ploughshares:—

"The Sharp's Rifle Company have leased their entire works to the Weed Sewing Machine Company, who will at once fit them up for use."

The strawberry business of Delaware and Maryland has increased with unexampled rapidity. The total shipped during the season for this year was 5,948,000 pounds, or 2,992 tons. The railroad companies have now special strawberry trains running during the season, with regularity, despatch, and with a time schedule nearly as fast as passenger trains. We (*New York Independent*) believe that in three years Delaware will be the home of the biggest portion of the strawberry trade, as it is now the principal fruit section for peaches.

#### Crimes and Casualties.

Between noon on Saturday and four o'clock on Monday morning the number of fires reported to the Metropolitan Brigade was twenty-two. None of these, however, were of a serious character.

As Mr. Ralph Montague Bernard, the senior surgeon of the Bristol Royal Infirmary, was walking with his wife along the cliffs at Gwbert, in the Bay of Cardigan, on Thursday last, the edge gave way, and he fell on to the beach seventy feet below. He sustained a severe fracture of the skull, and died in a few minutes.

A young man named Viccars, aged twenty-two, while playing at cricket in Stanley Park, Liverpool, on Saturday evening, was struck on the side of the head with the ball. He was removed to his house, but died sixteen hours afterwards of concussion of brain.

Agnes Norman, the nurse girl, convicted at the last session of the Central Criminal Court for attempting to strangle a boy left in her charge, was brought up for judgment on Monday, and sentenced to penal servitude for ten years.

Two notorious poachers named Logan and Sheran have been sent to prison for three months with hard labour by the Kells county magistrates for waylaying and brutally assaulting one Rudden, a gamekeeper on the Marquis of Headfort's estate, in county Meath.

At Wansbeck, near Morpeth, on Monday, an iron suspension bridge over the river gave way under the weight of a large crowd that had assembled upon it, and about a hundred persons were thrown into the water, many of whom were severely injured.

At the Liverpool police-court on Monday David Tosh, master of the ship *Neva*, was fined 20/- and costs for having brought coolies into Greenock, and left them there without means of proceeding to their native country.

On Monday, at the brewery of Messrs. Bullard, at Norwich, a man named William Waters, about thirty years of age, fell into an empty beer vat, and before he could be extricated he was suffocated by carbonic acid gas which had accumulated at the bottom of the vat.

A blacksmith named John Brown, at Harrogate, went home drunk last Tuesday, quarrelled with his mother-in-law, an old woman, and knocked her down. She took to her bed, and died on Monday of the injuries she had received.

A desperate poaching affray occurred in Leicestershire on Friday night. Some gamekeepers surprised a gang of poachers upon the estate of Mr. Alfred Ellis, and a deadly struggle took place; the keepers seeking to detain the poachers, and the latter fighting for their liberty with savage desperation. The poachers were armed with heavy bludgeons. One of the watchers was beaten to death, and two others were left in a critical state. The ruffians took to flight, but two of them were captured in the course of the day.

An excursion-train from London to Liverpool ran into some laden trucks which were left standing on the main line at King Sutton, near Banbury, on Saturday afternoon. The driver and fireman leaped from the engine, which is described as having been "completely doubled up," and many of the excursionists were injured. On the same day there was a collision between a goods and a passenger train, near Milnthorpe, on the Lancaster and Carlisle line. The driver of the former was severely hurt, but the carriages of the passenger-train escaped without damage.

Fatal bathing accidents are now reported every day. On Sunday a young man named Worledge, a son of the late judge of the Essex County Court, was drowned on the beach at Folkestone. Two youths have been drowned at Tamworth, one of them in his attempts to save the other. On Sunday morning two bricklayers were drowned in the Clyde, opposite to Blantyre Works, where they had gone to bathe. A boat containing six young men and women was upset on Sunday evening at Blackwall, by two of the party getting up to change seats, and the whole six were thrown into the river. Boats were immediately put off to endeavour to save the drowning people, but only two of the six were rescued. The others were carried away by the tide and drowned.

One day last week a young lad of fourteen years of age, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Kelsick Alexander, went for a day's fishing on Ullswater. He took a boat, and in the afternoon he was joined by his father and mother, who stayed with him for some time and then left him again. They took a conveyance and drove along the Cumberland side of the lake, and for some time they could see their son in his boat. Suddenly, however, they lost sight of him, and immediately saw him struggling in the water. Mr.

Alexander did what lay in his power to help the unfortunate lad, but before any assistance could reach him he sank, and when recovered from the water he was quite dead.

#### THE SCOTT CENTENARY.

The celebration of the Scott Centenary took place on Wednesday, in Edinburgh. The true anniversary of Sir Walter Scott's birthday is the 15th of August, but the people of Edinburgh fixed Wednesday for the celebration, with a view of detaining in the city the distinguished visitors who had been brought thither by the meeting of the British Association. The affair passed off satisfactorily. On the site of Sir Walter's birthplace a trophy of flags had been erected. Shops were shut, bells were ringing, and houses were profusely decorated with flags and festoons. The weather was fine, though the heat was somewhat oppressive. The centre of attraction was the Scott monument. With good taste the monument itself was conspicuous by the absence of any decoration except a garland of immortelles in the hand of the statue, and the placing of flowers and shrubs on the steps of the monument. Crowds of people thronged the streets to see the procession. In the evening about 2,000 ladies and gentlemen assembled in the Corn Exchange. The Earl of Dalkeith presided; the Lord Provost, Lord Dalhousie, Lord Jervis Wood, and the Lord Justice General acting as vice-chairmen. Among the guests were Lord Lawrence, Lord Houghton, Dean Stanley, Mr. Cyrus Field, &c. After the usual toasts Sir Wm. Stirling Maxwell proposed the "Memory of Sir Walter Scott" in an eloquent and appropriate speech. The centenary was brilliantly celebrated in Dundee. The largest hotel in the town was crowded with a fashionable audience, the Bishop of Brechin and the Rev. George Gilfillan being the chief speakers. A working men's meeting in another hall was largely attended. Celebrations also took place in Glasgow, Dumfries, and other places.

There was a "Scott Celebration" at the Crystal Palace yesterday, with ample entertainments befitting such an event. It partook of the character of a national Scottish fête, under the patronage of the Dukes of Argyll, Sutherland, Roxburgh, and Atholl, the Marquis of Lorne, the Marquis of Huntly, and other noblemen. In the course of the day there were an exhibition of pictures illustrative of the universality of Scott's genius; a pipers' competition and procession; a performance of *Guy Mannering*; and a variety of Highland games. The proceedings were wound up with a banquet in the evening. At the celebration which took place at the Cannon-street Hotel, Mr. Hepworth Dixon presided; while Dr. Rogers took the chair at the dinner of the Grampian Club, held at St. James's-hall.

#### FRIGHTFUL EXPLOSION OF GUN-COTTON.

A terrible catastrophe occurred at Stowmarket on Friday in the shape of an explosion at Messrs. Prentice's gun-cotton manufactory. It resulted in the death of no less than twenty-four persons, and in severe injury to seventy-two, several of whom are not expected to survive. The first explosion seems to have occurred at the magazine, where about twelve tons of gun-cotton were stored. It reduced almost the whole of the works to ruins, and set fire to many of the buildings, amongst which were the drying sheds. Mr. E. H. Prentice and Mr. W. Prentice were endeavouring to draw a box of cartridges from one of the drying sheds close by part of the burning building, when the cartridges ignited, and a second explosion took place, causing the death of those two gentlemen. The shock occasioned by the explosion was terrible, and was heard for twelve or fourteen miles around. Every shop window in the town was smashed, and some of the houses completely unroofed. The church windows were blown out, as were also some of those at the Independent Church. The greatest excitement prevailed in the town, and, in fact, throughout the entire district. Within the last few weeks a series of experiments have been carried on by Government officials, which went to prove that the cartridges under those conditions would not explode, but events have proved in a melancholy manner that these experiments were fallacious.

Mr. Eustace Prentice, the manager of the company, was on the continent at the time of the catastrophe, but is expected to return before the resumption of the official inquiry which has been commenced.

"Now, my boy," said the education board, trying his hand at a country school, "if I had a mince-pie and should give three-twelfths of it to John, three-twelfths to Isaac, three-twelfths to Harry, and should take half the pie myself, what would there be left? Speak up loud, so that all can hear."

"The plate," shouted the boy.

**THE DEVIL FISH.**—Recently a gentleman who was swimming off Dover, some distance out at sea, and attended by a boat, was seized by a devil fish (the monstrous *poulpe* written of by Victor Hugo). The fish seized the swimmer with its suckers, and was dragging him under the water, when the boatman fortunately caught the gentleman by the hair of the head and pulled him away from the clutches of the hideous creature, a portion of the fish still clinging to him. The swimmer was quite prostrate, and bleeding in many parts of the body where the fish had seized him, and has since suffered much from the shock to the system. This story comes to us well authenticated.—*Court Journal*.

## Literature.

DR. VANCE SMITH AND  
THE "COMPREHENSION" SCHEME.\*

In the last chapter of "The Bible and Popular Theology" reviewed by us a few weeks ago, Dr. Vance Smith has some remarks on "the Church and the Churches," the "Proper Basis of Christian Communion," and the "question of a National Church," in which he advocates the comprehensive scheme of a National Church, and argues against the policy of disestablishment. Most of the arguments in favour of comprehension have hitherto proceeded from Broad-Church members of the Establishment; it is interesting to see what a Nonconformist has to say on the same side. As might be expected from the place in which his remarks are found, Dr. Vance Smith argues in favour of comprehension from a Unitarian standpoint; it is, in fact, to him the ecclesiastical development of his theological principles. This is amusingly manifest when he speaks of the possibility of "some of our highest 'Anglican or 'Catholic' friends" not being able to be members of a National Church on the basis of comprehension. "The more," says he, "would be the pity—at least for themselves. 'But in any case the door would be open for those who preferred to go out. They could become Dissenters! And probably the change would be good for their spiritual health; while many would be ready to acknowledge that such a turning of the world ecclesiastical upside down would in their case be no unfitting 'Nemesis' of spiritual arrogance—all things considered." Now, seeing it is quite certain that the bulk of the Nonconformists do not wish a comprehensive National Church, and would still be Dissenters, were the Establishment placed on such a footing to-morrow, Dr. Vance Smith's proposal amounts to this: that the Established Church should be revolutionised in order that the "Anglicans" and "Catholics" should go out for the Unitarians to come in.

Dr. Vance Smith deplores, and not at all too strongly, the intensity and the prevalence of the sectarian spirit in England, with the waste of spiritual influence it causes, and the suspicion or dislike in which, because of it, Christianity itself is held.

"The material consequences of this unseemly sectarian spirit are seen partly in the bitterness, dissension, and intolerance which now unhappily prevail within the Established Church itself, and partly in the irreligion, ignorance, and manifold vice which, alas! exist so largely throughout the lower strata of the English nation. For such evils, it cannot be doubted, English sectarianism is greatly to blame. The remedy, however, is not to be found, as some might tell us, in a self-regarding submission to priestly authority—supposing, for a moment, such a thing to be possible. It is rather in the combination and the organisation of all religious men of every sect, for united Christian work in one grand national whole, on the simple basis of Christ's teachings. It is in the concentration of energies, now too much divided and wasted, for the instruction and evangelising of our people. But this union can never take place, and never even commence, until at least the National Church shall open its doors wide enough to admit, without test or creed of human devising, all who profess and call themselves Christians, and who desire to come in and unite as brethren in Christ on the broad and simple principle of the acceptance of His words—His words alone—as the test of discipleship."

Further on Dr. Vance Smith speaks of "the great idea of a common church for the whole English people, founded upon some simple and intelligible Christian principle, admitted by all." It is, then, for the nation he would legislate; but the nation is not Christian, and a "Church for the whole English people" would not be a Christian Church. The small but intelligent band of Positivists—a sect perhaps destined for some time to increase in influence—would claim the name of "religious men," but they would not "profess and call themselves Christians." Professor Huxley and Mr. Mill have both declared publicly that Christ's teaching is insufficient as a basis of morality. The "acceptance of His words—His words alone" would be a test excluding them from the National Church. Dr. Vance Smith's scheme would fail in "comprehension." Whatever advantage or prestige may attach to a National Church would be taken from many because they could not accept the new test; and in so far as they felt themselves personally responsible for national action, they would suffer wrong in their consciences, and would be bound to agitate for a new "liberation of religion."

But again, freedom of religious opinion has another aspect: it means full liberty of expression for religious conviction; and, to use an old

topical aphorism, we lose in "intention" what we gain in "comprehension." We have no more right to repress the utterance of narrow religious convictions, than to demand the profession of a dogmatic creed. The nation is no more justified in holding out inducements to some men to abate their theological earnestness than in holding out inducements to others to strain their consciences to the point of subscription. It is evidently a necessity of Dr. Liddon's religious life that he should worship Jesus Christ. Equally evidently is it a necessity of Dr. Vance Smith's to refuse such worship. To the one, to worship Christ is idolatry; to the other, not to worship Him is a denial of the only true God. What common religious exercises can unite two such men? Either a Comprehensive Church must have a theology and a service as colourless and formless as the thing dreamed of by some educationists under the name of "undenominational religion"; or the members of the Church will be liable to have their consciences offended in their own assemblies. At present the conscience of a member of one religious community suffers no wrong from what is done in another, because he has no part nor responsibility in the matter. The case would be wholly different if all were members of one Church.

"It may, indeed, be true that in a National Church, built upon the foundation of Christ alone, there would be great diversities of opinion on many speculative points. But do not such diversities of opinion exist now, under the old, long-tried, narrow, and broken-down system? We should then be in no worse position in that respect. Nay, we should be in a better; for although people would naturally group themselves round various centres of instruction and influence, as they found spiritual food suitable to their different wants, yet all might still feel this far more truly than at present, that they were equal members of the one Body of Christ, and all members one of another. Differences, within the Christian fold or outside of it, cannot be got rid of; but, in one comprehensive Church, injurious influences arising from them would probably be reduced to a minimum; while a true freedom of thought and speech, fully and legally allowed to all, could only tend, among honest men, to the destruction of error, the speedier discovery and the surer establishment of truth."

We suggest that sectarianism within a Church is far worse, far more unlovely, than the separation of Christian communities; and sectarianism would be intensified by the gathering of all the forms of Christian thought in England with one society. Unless this comprehension scheme be, as we sometimes suspect, a scheme for the suppression of religious zeal, men of definite and earnest convictions would speak them out as now, and would gather their adherents round them. The feeling that the errors against which they were protesting were preached and held by their fellow-members would but impel them to more emphatic protest that they at least might "deliver their soul." Unless all history be false, intestine strife is the bitterest of all; and the endowments would come in as another element to inflame and to degrade the contests. And what of the rural districts? Is the parochial system to be carried out? If so, how are people to "group themselves round various centres of instruction and influence" as they find "spiritual food suitable to their different wants"? In thinly inhabited districts, the people will be compelled to endure the ministry of the parson, whatever they may think of his teaching; unless indeed, the edifying spectacle should be seen of missionary operations in one parish conducted by the parson of another, because the State had appointed a too orthodox or a too heterodox divine, as the case might be.

"Liberty to inquire," says Dr. Vance Smith, "and to express the results of honest inquiry, cannot fail to be one of the most prominent characteristics of a Church which desires to 'worship God in spirit and in truth.' And this principle he commends with a sneer to the consideration of many members of the Liberation Society. The members of the Liberation Society are as zealous for this principle as he can be; it is because they believe the "comprehension scheme" to be inconsistent both with liberty to inquire and freedom of expression that they are definitely and thoroughly opposed to it. Such freedom would be the result of disestablishment; in part its result immediately, and in the end completely so."

We have also to assure Dr. Vance Smith that there are many Congregational Churches—we believe we might say the majority—where no doctrinal schedule is appended to the trust-deed; and we are not aware of any "other well-understood means" for securing that "no one shall be minister of a church who does not teach and preach according to the little set of Calvinistic doctrines specified in the schedule." Doubtless many Congregationalists are not consistent in the development of their principles of religious liberty. Under the influence of terror, partly because some Unitarians were thought to have secured exclusive possession of property left

under open trusts, some Congregationalists resorted to legal enactments to secure the faith of Churches, but it was never other than a partial movement, against which the *Nonconformist* newspaper, and many of the most eminent Congregationalists, made a continued and decided protest.

## MR. BROWNING'S MAY-MONTH AMUSEMENT.\*

Those who had heretofore regarded Mr. Browning as an involved writer, and an obscure thinker, continually urging his readers on to the edge of metaphysical or psychological dilemmas, and who had fancied that he was nothing else and nothing more than this, must have found themselves very pleasantly surprised by this "May-month Amusement." Clearly it is not because Mr. Browning cannot be simple and popular that he so often chooses such themes as he does choose, and writes in the style in which he does write. Even in his most elaborate and intricately subtle work—where the dramatic result derives from the very multiplicity of mental media, through which a common object is seen—ever and anon we come on passages which are poems in themselves, full of the simplest purpose, single in mood, fine in expression, crystalline in limpid clearness of flow.

The passage near the end of *Paracelsus*, where Aureole gives his last counsel to his friend; the passage in the "Ring and the Book"—"O lyric love, half angel and half bird;" and the sweet lyric "Evelyn Hope," are of themselves sufficient to rebut the notion, once more prevalent than it is now, that Mr. Browning is so affectedly profound and philosophic because he cannot be simple. And now he has half-consciously set his hand on a subject, by means of which to give this error its death-blow. Mr. Browning says, in the dedication, that the poem absolutely owes its existence to the Countess Cowper; and he gracefully closes thus: "Eu-ripedes might fear little; but I also have an interest in the performance; and what wonder if I beg you to suffer that it make, in another and far easier sense, its nearest possible approach to those Greek qualities of goodness and beauty, by laying itself gratefully at your feet?" Clearly the poet who can in pastime make such a sunshiny thing—a thing which is of music, all compact, and whose meaning, though not all its beauty, is at once perceptible, ought not to be spoken of as though his obscurities sprang from any lack of strength to adequately realise his conceptions. This poem will, perhaps, teach some readers to look for the reasons of Mr. Browning's obscurities elsewhere, and will, perhaps, be more valuable in one point of view than a more ambitious work might have been.

In "Balaustion's Adventure" we have all the dramatic fluency and verisimilitude that mark Mr. Browning's greater dramatic lyrics, with only a hint of those involved motifs that usually there intrude, so giving us in one report, as it were, the history of several minds or moods at one moment. It is saturated by the Greek naturalness and simplicity of feeling; and the story flows on in sweet, stately movement. The transcript from *Euripides* means the story of one of that great poet's tragedies—how Admetos, King of Thessaly, having hospitably sheltered Apollo during the year of his exile from Olympus, was granted

"Escape  
From Hades when the fated day should fall  
Could he exchange lives, find some friendly one  
Ready for his sake to content the grave.  
But trying all in turn the friendly list,  
Why, he found no one, none, who loved so much,  
Nor father, nor the aged mother's self  
That bore him, no, not any, save his wife,  
Willing to die instead of him, and watch  
Never a sunrise nor a sunset more."

How on the day that Alcestis died, Apollo came to the door and "stood one pitying moment's space," and then vanished, leaving the mortals to deal with misery; and how at length Heracles comes, and, finding that Alcestis is gone, resolves:

"I will go lie, lie in wait for death, black-stoled  
King of the corpses! I shall find him, sure,  
Drinking beside the tomb, o' the sacrifice;  
And if I lie in ambuscade, and leap  
Out of my lair, and seize, encircle him  
Till one hand join the other round about—  
There lives not who shall pull him out from me,  
Rib-mauled, before he let the woman go!  
But even say I miss the booty—say,  
Death comes not to the bouldered blood—why, then,  
Down go I, to the unsunned dwelling-place  
Of Koie and the King there—make demand,  
Confident I shall bring Alkestis back,  
So as to put her in the hands of him  
My host, that housed me."

How Admetos spurns the thought that the joys of a new marriage could possibly lighten

\* *Balaustion's Adventure: including a Transcript from Euripides.* By ROBERT BROWNING. (Smith, Elder, and Co.)

\* *Last Chapter of the Bible and Popular Theology.*  
By G. VANCE SMITH, B.A., Ph.D., Minister of St. Saviourgate Chapel, York. (London: Longmans, Green, Reader, and Dyer.)

his sorrow; how Heracles brings to Admetus a slave, veiled, for a gift; and how, the woman being so like in form to Alcestis, he is fain to decline to receive it; how at last, accepting it, because no gift of the Gods should be refused, he was blessed by finding that the woman he deemed to be a slave was none other but his own Alcestis; and how

"The hero twitted  
The veil off: and there stood, with such fixed eyes  
And such slow smile, Alkestis' silent self!  
It was the crowning grace of that great heart  
To keep back joy: procrastinate the truth  
Until the wife, who had made proof and found  
The husband wanting, might essay once more,  
Hear, see, and feel him renovated now—  
Able to do, now, all herself had done,  
Risen to the height of her: so hand in hand  
The two might go together, live and die."

The point most characteristic of Mr. Browning is the dramatic justification he has found for the form in which he tells the story. Balaustion is a girl of Rhodes. The Rhodians, owing to the disastrous result of Nicias' expedition against Syracuse, when he—

"Shamed Athens, lost her ships and men,  
And gained a grave, or death without a grave"  
are eager to throw off their allegiance to Athens. Balaustion, captivated by the romantic glory and the genius of Athens, urges her friends and relatives to—

"Never throw Athens off for Sparta's sake—  
Never disloyal to the life and light  
Of the whole world worth calling world at all!  
Rather go die at Athens, lie outstretched  
For feet to trample on, before the gate  
Of Diomedes or the Hippodai,  
Before the temples and among the tombs,  
Than tolerate the grim felicity  
Of harsh Lakonia."

"We turned  
The glad prow westward, soon were out at sea,  
Pushing, brave ship with the vermillion cheek,  
Proud for our hearts' true harbour."

But storms arise and they are blown from their course, then they are set on and pursued by pirates, and to encourage her companions in their strait, Balaustion sings to them the verses of Aeschylus. They are driven into Syracuse, and the Syracusans threaten, in spite of their petitions, to drive them out to sea again into the teeth of the pirate:—

"We were just about  
To turn and face the foe, as some tired bird  
Barbarians pelt at, drive with shouts away  
From shelter in what rocks, however rude,  
She makes for, to escape the kindled eye,  
Split beak, crooked claw o' the creature, cormorant  
Or ossifrage, that hardly baffled, hangs  
Afloat i' the foam, to take her if she turn.  
So we were at destruction's very edge,  
When those o' the galley as they had discussed  
A point, a question raised by somebody,  
A m' ter mooted in a moment—'Wait!'  
Cried they (and wait we did, you may be sure)  
'That song was veritable Aischylos,  
Familiar to the mouth of man and boy,  
Old glory: how about Euripides?  
The never and not yet so famous bard,  
He that was born upon the battle day,  
While that song and the salpin sounded him  
Into the world, first sound, at Salamis—  
Might you know any of his verses, too?'

Balaustion was called on to stand forth, and though she doubted it, she had the—

"Courage to recite  
The main of a whole play from first to last;  
That strangest, sweetest song of his,  
Alkestis; which was taught long years ago  
At Athens, in Glenkino's anchorage,  
But only this year reached our Isle of the Poe."

And so we end nearly at the beginning; as we are assured most readers will do; for they will turn back with delight to read again this wonderfully characteristic yet most musical and simple narrative.

#### THE REV. THOMAS MADGE.\*

Mr. James has produced an interesting life of his friend Mr. Madge. Though he had no striking incidents to describe, he has given force to his narrative by the wakeful sympathy he invariably manifests with the matters on which he touches. Mr. Madge's character and position and influence can be accurately gathered from what is said here of him.

In some respects the book may be specially instructive to our readers. Mr. Madge was a Unitarian of a decided kind; but we think no one can rise from the perusal of his memoir without feeling that he was a true Christian. It was not only that he believed Christianity to be true in his own sense of it; but he lived in a Christian atmosphere, and habitually devoted himself to the purposes of Christianity. The conception and administration of Christianity which are developed in the volume before us are different from what the members of orthodox churches are accustomed to, but they are true of their kind, and it may be useful to mark how a common

\* *Memoir of the Rev. Thomas Madge, late Minister of Essex-street Chapel, London.* By the Rev. WILLIAM JAMES. (Longmans and Co.)

religious good can be secured under a wide diversity, both of thought and of action.

Mr. Madge was born in 1786, and was successively minister of the Churchgate-street Chapel, Bury St. Edmunds, the Octagon Chapel, Norwich, and the Essex-street Chapel, London. He died in 1870. Throughout his life he was very popular as a preacher. There was a singular charm in his delivery of a sermon, and his matter was remarkable for clearness of statement and impressiveness of appeal; he indulged in none of the arts of pulpit display; and though he could not be called a deep thinker, his discourses were especially adapted to the taste of cultivated men. He was always fully competent for the work he undertook; and it was impossible to listen to him without yielding to the sincerity and vigour with which he fulfilled his work. His circle of acquaintance was large and distinguished. He was connected on terms of intimacy with persons of eminence in the literary, political, and religious world; and wherever he was known he was loved. The tender affection that was felt for him by the members of his own family, was shared in all its tenderness by the circle of his friends, and he passed from youth to old age with as few drawbacks upon the honourable estimation in which he was held as could possibly occur. The sweetness of his disposition secured a corresponding attachment to his person: and, though he had to suffer severe trials, he enjoyed as much earthly success and pleasure as placed him among the happiest of men.

There was one characteristic belonging to Mr. Madge more prominent than any other. This was his simplicity. Everything he did was coloured by that prevalent tendency of his nature. In mind and manner, in feeling and expression, he was as simple as a child. He manifested the trustfulness of a child, and he was treated with the sympathy which is shown to a child. His language was the exact copy of his reflexion, and in his behaviour his impulses could be accurately traced. This simplicity gave power to all his efforts. Perhaps those who agree with him in theological opinion would say that his views of Christianity were adopted in the exercise of this simplicity: but whether that were the case or not, his ministry derived from its simplicity its most telling effects. It is remarkable that this characteristic should have been so perfectly preserved amid the dangers to which popular preaching and aristocratic association exposed him.

We find it difficult to make extracts suitable for our purpose from Mr. James's book; but there is one extract which we must give, pointing as it does to that community of heart in spite of divergence of sentiment, on the conviction of whose reality this notice has been written. Mr. Madge's son Travers, who had commenced life as a Unitarian minister of great promise, became orthodox, and died at Norwich a few years before the father's death. The spiritual relations between the two are thus described:—

"His father and Mrs. Madge went to see him once more, and never left him again until the wearied and worn-out body was at rest, and the pure spirit went home to God. In the Rev. Brooke Herford's touching and beautiful memoir of Travers Madge, it is said that his father's visit was a great pleasure to him. 'If he was too weak to talk to him, he liked to have him sitting by his sofa, and before he went to bed at night his father read some portion of Scripture and prayed with him; and often in the day, Travers said how delightful this was to him.' He was now a member of the Church of England, but they conversed happily together on the highest themes, in the last hours of his life upon earth. Just before the parting moment came, the aged father knelt and implored the support and comfort for his son which God alone could give. He walked with him down the valley of the shadow of death, and saw him departing in joy and peace to the land immortal."—P. 288.

#### BRIEF NOTICES.

*Life and Labours of Duncan Matheson, the Scottish Evangelist.* By the Rev. JOHN MACPHERSON, Author of "The Christian Hero." (Morgan and Chase.) There are a few things about Duncan Matheson which we might freely criticise were we so inclined. He was one-sided and extreme, and his mind was far from being equally balanced. But he did good work in the world; and, indeed, it seems to be a question whether some defects of vision and sympathy are not needful to enable a man to do the rough effective work of an evangelist.

This looks like a paradox, but were we each perfect creatures, we should simply be poor, isolated, and helpless. Seeing this, there is surely room enough to admit Providence. Matheson was come of poor Scotch people. He was born at Huntly, and was apprenticed as a mason; but was converted under the preaching of a Mr. Cowie and the Haldanes when quite young, and at once embarked on the work of a revivalist. For a while he stuck to his trade; but other people, discerning in him a real gift, urged him to devote himself wholly to the work. If he was a fanatic, he was a wondrously practical and orderly one. He composed tracts and "told" them up in type, and printed them with

his own hand, determined that lack of money to pay for printing should not baulk his purpose. His thoroughly practical tendency kept him from falling into the extreme form of Calvinistic belief. "He noticed that ultra-Calvinists are generally 'unpractical, and given to preaching in their prayers.' He went from place to place, and was literally indefatigable. When the war broke out in the Crimea, he determined to go there, to minister at once to the bodily and spiritual needs of the wounded and suffering. And he did his work well. He got forward and went into places where scarcely another person could have forced his way, overcame the prejudices of officials, and gained the friendship of chaplains, and proved himself an evangelist indeed. This is the most interesting portion of the life, and it is very well told. It is odd to read of a man doing such work as this proceeding to sea to bury some tracts because he thought them Popish. Yet this was the result of a principle which did much to make him the man he was. "It is needful 'to draw the line somewhere.' A thoroughly sincere man must draw it at the point on which he will take his stand as for life and death. Matheson was at least sincere; and his life is full of lessons of its own kind.

*Sketches of Working Women.* By ELLEN BARLEE, Author of "Our Homeless Poor," "Thinking and Acting," &c. (Seeley.) Miss Barlee is very well known as an indefatigable worker in the cause of social progress. Emigration, and the education and moral improvement of women, are topics that have specially attracted her; and she has done a good deal in the way of writing and publishing tracts to promote such objects. This volume is properly a series of tracts of a very superior kind. Knowing how difficult it is to get working people to read what is hard or didactic, she here throws her thoughts, warnings, and suggestions into the shape of stories. She has been trained herself well to the work; and we hope will reap the reward which she deserves, in the success of this little volume. It consists of seven stories, all of humble life, told with considerable brightness and skill, and now and then touched with a gentle pathos. We have read the volume with pleasure, and heartily commend it to those for whom it was meant. Like most English writers, Miss Barlee is occasionally a little loose in her Scotch; that, however, is a minor matter.

*Prayers from the Collection of the late Baron Bunsen.* Selected and translated by CATHERINE WINKWORTH. (Longmans.) Baron Bunsen combined two qualities that are rarely combined without giving an appearance of dividedness to the character. He was singularly simple and devout in his feelings; while he was very daring and speculative in intellect, given to sweep a wide circle of facts somewhat hastily, and to draw bold conclusions from them. He was essentially pious in spirit; the reconciliation lay here. In nothing did his spirit find fuller satisfaction than in framing liturgy or compiling prayers. Those which we have in this volume are excellently chosen and arranged; full of simple faith, they are now and again enkindling, yet never overloaded in expression; some of them from the later theologians of Germany—as, for example, that from Richard Rothe, "After the Holy Communion," at p. 138, betray deep experience, and are almost perfect in their composition. The volume is divided into two parts, the first being "for the family," and the second being "prayers and meditations for private use." The latter strike us as being, on the whole, the richest.

*Outlines of Indian History.* By A. H. HUGHES. (Bell and Daldy.) This is a very handy manual—the information being not only packed into small compass, but very systematically headed and arranged, and pleasantly conveyed. No history presents more difficulties to a writer aiming at compression than early Indian history, the only records being of a poetic character; but here it is well done, and the volume cannot fail to be largely useful. As we all ought to be more interested in India than we are, it is well we should know more of it, for the one condition of interest in anything is to become familiar with it.

*Rays from the Light of Truth. Select Sermons.* By the Rev. F. FIELDER, Baptist Minister. (Yates and Alexander.) These sermons are thoughtful, and marked by earnestness which never condescends to trick or mere rhetoric. Sometimes, however, we have an effective illustration. Those on "The Judgments of God" and "The Philosophy of Salvation" are, in our opinion, especially worthy of notice.

*Cicero.* By the Rev. W. LUCAS COLLINS, M.A. (Blackwood.) This is another of that excellent series of "Ancient Classics for English Readers," by the publication of which Messrs. Blackwood have conferred so great a boon on the English public. This volume is especially interesting. Cicero was a public man, a politician of noble type, and lived a very active and patriotic life. Mr. Collins gives a biography of the great Roman orator, and intersperses it with epitomes of his speeches and his philosophic writings. The subject was a capital one, and we think Mr. Collins has done it justice.

*The Homoeopathic Vade Mecum of Modern Medicine and Surgery.* By E. HARRIS RUDDOCK, M.D. (The Homoeopathic Publishing Company, 2, Finsbury-circus.) This is the fourth edition of this work, and judging from the large sale it has had, we imagine that it has been found very useful to homoeopaths. The book is certainly very complete, the larger size especially so. It is

intended not merely for domestic use, but also for students and junior practitioners. The directions are very clear, and the *Materia Medica* and *Chemical Dictionary* comprehensive. The volume is divided into five parts. 1. *Hygiene*; 2. *Diseases and their treatment*; 3. *Materia Medica*; 4. *Accessory means*, which include the treatment of accidents &c.; 5. *Chemical Dictionary*. To homoeopaths out of the reach of medical aid this work would be a most valuable assistance.

### Miscellaneous.

The men employed in the building trades in several of the large towns are starting a nine hours movement.

An hotel porter at Exeter claims to be the illegitimate son of a lady of property and position in the county. The matter will be brought to an issue by an action for libel by the lady against the claimant. The case is down for hearing at the Bristol Assizes.

**THE TICHBORNE CASE.**—The fees paid to the junior counsel in the Tichborne case, now on their way to Australia, will illustrate the nature of the expenses attendant upon this gigantic suit. The *Law Times* says each gentleman receives 500 guineas and his expenses, and the cost of this trip will be upwards of 1,500*l.*

**NATIONAL EDUCATION LEAGUE.**—We learn from the monthly paper of the National Education League that thirty-seven new branches have been formed. Preparations are being made for an active campaign during the winter. The annual meeting of the League will probably be held in the third week of October.

**THE HEAT OF THE WEATHER.**—From a record of the heat of the past few days, which has been kept at Kew, it is shown that while on Monday, the 7th inst., the maximum temperature in the sun was 112 deg. Fahrenheit, and in the shade 82, on Sunday last it had risen to 125 in the sun, and 91 in the shade. Yesterday the temperature had somewhat moderated. In the provinces, especially the Midland counties, there have been violent thunderstorms.

**THE ARMY BILL.**—It is stated that the system of regimental agents so closely connected with the purchase system, is to be gradually abolished. The allowance of 1*l*.*d.* in the pound hitherto allowed on sums advanced by agents is henceforth to be discontinued—a change which involves a loss of 11,000*l.* a year to one agent alone. It is also said that the Secretary of State has decided that all the troops now in Canada shall be withdrawn not later than the 31st October next.

**WANDSWORTH COMMON.**—The remains of Wandsworth Common (says the *Daily News*) are in a fair way of being preserved to the public. Parliament has just passed an Act vesting the common in eight conservators—one nominated by the Home Office (Mr. R. H. Wyatt, the clerk of the peace for Surrey), one by the Office of Works (the Right Hon. A. S. Ayton), one by the Metropolitan Board of Works (Mr. Meudon), three inhabitants of Battersea, and two inhabitants of Wandsworth. Lord Spencer, as lord of the manor, has agreed to take 25*l.* per annum in satisfaction of his rights. To meet this annuity, and to pay their other outgoings, the conservators are empowered to levy a halfpenny rate on all property in the parishes of Battersea and Wandsworth.

**UNIQUE LIBEL CASE.**—At the Bristol Assizes on Saturday, an action for libel was tried before Mr. Justice Brett, brought by Mr. Latimer, proprietor of the *Western Daily Mercury*, published at Plymouth, against a joint-stock company, owning the *Western Morning News*, which is published at the same place. There has been considerable rivalry between the two papers with regard to their respective circulation and the number of advertisements in each, and the gist of the libel complained of was that the *Morning News* had charged the *Mercury* with manufacturing advertisements, inserting them without authority, and afterwards attempting to obtain payment for them. The jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff with 400*l.* damages.

**THE LORDS AND THE BALLOT.**—The Liberal peers who voted with Lord Shaftesbury on Thursday night were the Duke of Somerset, the Marquises of Clanricarde and Donegall, Earl Russell and Lord Lyveden. The Earl of Harrowby, who sat with the two last mentioned peers in the first Cabinet of Lord Palmerston, was also in the majority. In the same lobby were the Earls of Derby and Devon, and Earl Stanhope. The Marquis of Westminster paired in favour of the Bill; the Earl of Carnarvon, Earl Grey, and Lords Cairns and Lytton paired against it. The only prelate who voted was the Bishop of Oxford, and he supported the measure, while the Bishop of London paired in its favour. The number of peers who voted was 143, and 104 paired.

**DRINKING FOUNTAIN ASSOCIATION.**—The Marquis of Westminster makes an appeal on behalf of the Drinking Fountain and Cattle Trough Association, of which he is the president. A circular issued by the association shows how wide and beneficial has been its working. In one day 4,142 horses, it was found, drank at four troughs; and within the same short time 8,000 persons are known to have drunk at one fountain. In hot weather like the present it is computed that 300,000 persons daily avail themselves of the water supplied to them. The association has erected, keeps in repair, and

supplies with water 160 troughs and 144 fountains. It is supported solely by voluntary subscriptions; and as the supply of water to a single trough sometimes costs 30*l.* in the year, it will be seen that the funds required for its operations by the association are considerable.

**AMUSING EXPERIMENT WITH THE BALLOT.**—On the subject of the ballot there is a good joke in circulation. It will be observed that on Monday night Mr. Forster withdrew his model of a ballot-paper from the schedule, or rather that he eliminated the squares into which the voter's mark was to be put. The reason is said to be this:—Mr. Forster, anxious to test his scheme, had a little ballot-box made and some ballot-papers printed, which he brought down to the library. He gave papers to seven members, all friends of the ballot, and who had steadily followed the debates, and asked them to fill up the papers with votes and put them in the ballot-box. They did so, and on afterwards opening the papers, it was found that six out of seven had placed their marks wrong—outside the squares instead of inside, and consequently their votes would have all been rejected in a real election. The matter was good-humouredly alluded to by Mr. Muntz in the House on Monday night, who candidly confessed that he was one of the blunderers. After this exhibition of the mistakes of men who had gone through the debates, it was hopeless to expect the ordinary electors would understand the mysteries of the squares, and they have accordingly been struck out of the schedule.—*Daily Review*.

**VICTORIA INSTITUTE.**—A special meeting of the Council of the Victoria Institute, or Philosophical Society of Great Britain, took place on Wednesday, at its rooms, 8, Adelphi-terrace, for the purpose of electing new members. The following were admitted:—His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Right Reverend Bishop Trower, Mr. J. Houldsworth, Mr. T. Ensor, Mr. G. Maberley, and the Revs. J. G. Wood, F.Z.S., L. B. White, A. Savill, H. S. Warleigh, B. Whitelock, T. M. Gorman, and P. Strutt. The following were elected members of Council:—Rev. J. G. Wood, F.Z.S., and Mr. H. Cadman Jones. It was announced by Captain F. Petrie, the hon. secretary, that the institute now exchanged transactions with the Royal Society and many of the leading philosophical institutions. It was resolved that the Institute should co-operate with other scientific societies in endeavouring to secure an efficient expedition for the purpose of observing the solar eclipse in December. We may add that the Victoria Institute was founded in 1865 to investigate scientific theories generally, and more especially those which, from their nature, are used as arguments against the truth of the Christian religion by some who do not recognise the fact that science is her handmaid. The society urges that the more completely it investigates all disputed points, the more successfully will it dispel the scepticism of the age. The fact that during the past five months the Institute has increased its strength by one-third, sufficiently indicates its rapidly-increasing popularity.

**ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.**—At the half-yearly general meeting, held on Saturday at the Institution, the directors' report, which has already been noticed, was adopted, and the dividend of four per cent. for the half-year, or at the rate of eight per cent. per annum, was declared. The Rev. J. B. Owen, as chairman of the company, presided. A report of the position and progress of the Institution was read by Professor Pepper, which congratulated the shareholders on the continued success of the Polytechnic, notwithstanding the competition of the Crystal Palace, the new theatres, two-headed nightingales, giants and giantesses, and other novelties. 10,212 more people had paid for admission during the six months ending June 30 last than during the corresponding period of last year. The various entertainments which had been produced in the six months were then mentioned, and the improved arrangements for the comfort of visitors contemplated described. The Rev. C. Mackenzie read a report of the education department, which stated that the French and German evening classes had been a great success, and that in the Italian class there was considerable improvement. One of the students in book-keeping had obtained the first prize of five guineas given by the Society of Arts. The science classes continued to teach chemistry, animal physiology, metallurgy, drawing and mathematics, and the arithmetic, grammar, elocution, and writing classes were carried on as usual. The two best tests of the progress made, the money paid by the students for their own education, and the class lists after public examination—were satisfactory. In 1870-71 the students' fees amounted to 333*l.*, which is 20*l.* more than in the previous year, and 130*l.* more than in 1862-63. Besides the first prize alluded to, there were 89 certificates, 25 firsts, 30 seconds, and 34 thirds, and this exceeds any number previously obtained, and is 10 per cent. better than last year in quantity and quality. The several reports were adopted. The chairman, in moving that of the directors, stated that the increased dividend had arisen in a large degree from economical management. Thanks were voted to Professor Pepper, the honorary director of the Institution, to the officers generally, and to the chairman and directors.

It is stated that the Lady Olive Guinness, daughter of the Earl of Bandon, appeared at the Mayoress of Dublin's ball last week in diamonds which were valued at 20,000*l.*

### Gleanings.

Solidified lager is the last thing in America. You carry it in your pocket, and eat it like candy.

A student of theology describes a woman's original sphere to be the apple.

A boy and girl have died from eating toadstools in mistake for mushrooms at Flushing, Cornwall.

Mr. C. F. Varley, the electrician of the Atlantic Telegraph Company, has broached the novel theory that earthquakes are due to subterranean lightning.

A young woman has just been admitted in Lambeth Workhouse labouring under insanity brought about by the news that 200*l.* had been left her.

It is calculated that 40,000 citizens of the United States every year leave home to visit Europe, and that they spend 120,000,000 dollars.

A foreign gentleman declares that he can tell whenever he crosses the border of Massachusetts, because all the women begin to have "views."

The great joiner—the lawyer; he can replace a tenant, empannel a jury, box a witness, bore the court, chisel his client, auger the gains, floor a witness, nail the case, hammer the desk, file his bill, and gouge the whole community.

A man stopping his paper wrote to the editor: "I think folks oftent to spend their munny for payper, mi dadda diddant; and every body sed he was the intelligents man in the county, and had the smartest family of bois that ever dugged taters."

**A PROBLEM.**—The following knotty question claims the attention of one or all of our debating societies:—"If a man has a tiger by the tail, which would be the best for his personal safety—to hold on, or let go?"

**RURAL IDEAS OF ART.**—Two countrymen, observing the female figures with pitchers in their hands which supported the porticos of St. Pancras Church, New-road, wondered what they represented. "They must be the foolish virgins," said one. "They can't be, neither," replied the other; "there's only four of 'em." "Oh, it's all right," replied the friend; "the other is gone for the oil, you may depend on't."

**A MISTAKE CORRECTED.**—A rich but ignorant lady of Boston, who was ambitious that her conversation should be up to the transcendental style, in speaking of a friend, said, "Here's a paragraph of politeness!" "Excuse me," said a wag sitting next to her, "but do you not mean a parallelogram?" "Of course I meant parallelogram," replied the ambitious lady, "how could I have made such a mistake!"

**LIFE IN THE MINING DISTRICTS.**—A Staffordshire contemporary gives the following illustration of life in the mining district:—"One of the black-country sheep of the present Bishop of Lichfield's flock, hearing there was a bishop at Bilton, and not knowing precisely what a bishop was, took his bull-pup over from Wednesbury for the express purpose of trying the animal's metal upon the new-comer, announcing to a friend that 'the dawgg would pin it,' whatever it turned out to be."

**CENSUS RETURNS.**—A householder in a village between Stamford and Uppingham, in filling up his census schedule under the heading "Where born," described one of his children as born "in the parlour," and the other "up stairs." The following is a verbatim transcript of the census return handed in by a resident in the county of Meath:—"My name is Jonney Dooley i is a fiddler by me trade i plays on sundays for the Boys & Girls of the place, i am married to judy bigie she is me wife, I have too doters on Belongin to me & and the other Belons to judy afore I merid her. I is a Roman Catholick, and judy is the same to the Back Bone, this is all i can say about us, sined Jonney dooley."

**"SOBER AS A JUDGE."**—Mr. Justice Mellor is assailing the wisdom of our ancestors as embodied in proverbs in a very reckless manner. A good-humoured witness in a *nisi prius* case told a jury on Saturday that he was "as sober as a"—judge, he was going to say, but stopped short and begged pardon. The judge, instead of accepting the compliment contained in the proverb, which, considering its age, is really a high one, said it might as well be varied into "sober as a bishop." Why not suggest at once "as sober as a lord," and so reverse the old saying once for all by a formal judicial decision. It is in our day no more true than the corresponding one, which was always false, "as drunk as a beast."—*Spectator*.

**CURIOS ANAGRAMS.**—The American *Evangelist* gives the following curious and ingenious anagrams:—

Astronomers,	No more stars.
Elegant,	Neat leg.
Impatient,	Time in a pet.
Masquerade,	Queer as mad.
Matrimony,	Into my arm.
Melodrama,	Made moral.
Midshipman,	Mind his map.
Parishioners,	I hire parsons.
Parliament,	Partial men.
Penitentiary,	Nay, I repent.
Presbyterian,	Best in prayer.
Radical Reform,	Rare mad frolic.
Revolution,	To love ruin.
Sir Robert Peel,	Terrible poser.
Sweetheart,	There we sat.
Telegraph,	Great help.

**AN ITEM ACCOUNT.**—Judge L. of Virginia, was one of the most prompt and laborious men who have done honour to the bench. A certain Doctor R., noted for his exorbitant charges, had been called to attend a poor man during a long sickness,

and at its close presented a most exorbitant bill, which the patient refused to pay unless large deductions were made. The doctor insisted upon receiving the whole, and immediately brought suit. The case came up before Judge L., who during its progress asked to see the account. When it was handed up, it was found to consist of a single charge: "Medical attendance—so much." The judge required the doctor, who was present, to specify the items. He refused to comply, and the case was thrown out of court. When the court had adjourned, the doctor thus accosted the judge: "That was an honest account, Judge L., an honest account." "I know nothing about it," said the judge, in his sharp, decisive voice; "nothing about it, sir." After an embarrassing silence, the doctor began again: "Judge L., we shall all have to give an account—an account, sir, of all the deeds done in the body." "I know that, sir," retorted the judge; "I know that. But it will be an item account—an item account, sir."

**NOTICE.**—All announcements intended for this column must be accompanied by a remittance of half-a-crown in postage stamps.

### Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

#### BIRTHS.

JOHNSON.—August 14, at Grass Mount, Forest Hill, the wife of the Rev. E. Johnson, B.A., of a daughter.

JELLIE.—August 9, at the Manse, Gosport, the wife of the Rev. W. H. Jellie, Congregational minister of that town, of a son.

BUZACOTT.—On Tuesday, August 8, the wife of the Rev. A. Buzacott, B.A., of a daughter.

#### DEATH.

BUZACOTT.—On Saturday, August 12, Edith, the infant daughter of the Rev. A. Buzacott, B.A., aged four days.

### BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Wednesday's *Gazette*.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending Wednesday, Aug. 9.

#### ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued	£39,434,170	Government Debt	£11,015,100
Other Securities	3,984,900	Gold Coin & Bullion	24,434,170
Silver Bullion	...		
	£39,434,170		£39,434,170

#### BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Prop'r's Capit'l	£14,553,000	Government Secu-	ties
Rest	3,374,167	(inc. dead	
Public Deposits	4,704,497	weight annuity)	£14,468,368
Other Deposits	22,873,054	Other Securities	16,986,885
Seven Day and	Notes	13,957,185	
other Bills	560,016	Gold & Silver Coin	652,296
	£46,064,734		£46,064,734

Aug. 10, 1871. FRANK MAY, Deputy Chief Cashier.

**BREAKFAST.**—EPPS'S COCOA.—**GRATEFUL AND COMPTING.**—"By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected cocoa, Mr. Epps has provided our breakfast-tables with a delicately-flavoured beverage which may save us many heavy doctors' bills."—*Civil Service Gazette*. Made simply with Boiling Water or Milk. Each packet is labelled—"James Epps & Co., Homeopathic Chemists, London." Also, makers of Epps's Cacoaine, a very thin beverage for evening use.

**HOW TO DYE.**—Silk, Wool, Feathers, Ribbons, &c., in ten minutes, without soiling the hands. Use Judson's Simple Dyes, eighteen colours, 6d. each, with full instructions supplied. Of all chemists. The *Family Herald*, 3rd September, says, "A very slight acquaintance with Judson's dyes will render their application clear to all."

**HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.**—**EXCELLENT PILLS.**—The resources of medicine and chemistry were long and fruitlessly tried before they yielded a remedy which could overcome disorders of the stomach and nerves, till Professor Holloway discovered his purifying and tonic Pills. They are the safest and surest correctives of indigestion, heartburn, flatulency, torpidity of the liver, twitches, nervous fancies, despondency, low spirits, and declining strength. Holloway's Pills supersede all irregular action in the body, and so strengthen and support the system that disease departs, and leaves the patient not at all shaken; this is the grand aim and object of medical art, to regulate disordered functions, without damaging the constitution by the remedy, and admirably is this end attained by Holloway's Pills.

**KINAHAN'S LIQUOR.**—This celebrated and most delicious old mellow spirit is the very cream of Irish Whiskies, in quality unrivalled, perfectly pure, and more wholesome than the finest Cognac Brandy. Note the words "Kinahan's LI. Whisky," on seal, label and cork. Wholesale Depot, 6a, Great Tichfield-street, Oxford-street, W.

### Markets.

**PROVISIONS.**—Monday, Aug. 14.—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 981 firkins butter and 3,683 bales bacon, and from foreign ports 16,778 packages butter, and 1,820 bales bacon. For Irish butter there has been a little more doing last week. Finest Clonmells sold at 117s. on board, a few Corks sold at 122s. for firsts, 117s. for seconds, 108s. for thirds, landed, and a few Limericks sold at 108s. on board. Foreign has sold slowly at a decline on best Jerseys of 4s. to 6s., the demand being more for the finest brands of Normandies, best Dutch declined to 116s. to 118s. The bacon market continues steady without alteration in prices.

**CORN EXCHANGE, MARK LANE.**—Monday, Aug. 14.

We had a small supply of English wheat this morning, including several samples of the new crop. The market was inanimate, but English wheat made last week's prices, new white realised 58s. per qr. Of foreign wheat fine Australian and Californian were in request for export, and maintained their value, and American wheat sold at 1s. to 2s. per qr, decline. The flour trade was dull, and prices were barely supported. Peas and beans were unaltered in value. Barley was a quiet trade at last week's prices. Indian corn was 6d.

per qr. lower. Large arrivals of oats keep the market depressed, and prices have given way 6d. per qr. during the week. Business in cargoes at the ports of call has been of small extent. Wheat must be quoted 1s. lower; other descriptions of grain nominally unchanged in value.

#### CURRENT PRICES.

WHEAT—	Per qr.	PEAS—	Per qr.
Essex and Kent,	s. s.	Grey ..	37 to 40
red ..	— to —	Maple ..	43 46
Ditto new ..	51 to 56	White ..	38 42
White ..	—	Boilers ..	38 42
new ..	56 60	Foreign ..	37 40
Foreign red ..	51 53		
" white ..	56 59	RYE ..	36 38
BARLEY—		OATS—	
English malting	31 34	English Feed ..	23 26
Chevalier ..	36 42	Scotch feed ..	—
Distilling ..	35 39	Irish Black ..	19 21
Foreign ..	33 37	White ..	21 24
		Foreign feed ..	16 20
MALT—		FLOUR—	
Pale ..	—	Town made ..	47 50
Chevalier ..	—	Best country	
Brown ..	49 54	households ..	39 42
		Norfolk & Suffolk	37 38
BEANS—			
Ticks ..	37 38		
Harrow ..	39 43		
Small ..	—		
Egyptian ..	32 34		
BREAD, Saturday, Aug. 12.—The prices in the Metropolis are, for Wheaten Bread, per 4 lbs. loaf, 7d. to 8d.; Household Bread, 6d. to 7d.			

**METROPOLITAN CATTLE MARKET.**—Monday, Aug. 14.—The total imports of foreign stock into London last week amounted to 19,269 head. In the corresponding week in 1870 we received 12,075; in 1869, 10,679; in 1868, 11,398; and in 1867, 12,940 head. There has been a very short supply of English stock on sale here to-day, but the arrivals from abroad have been very liberal. Really prime stock has been scarce and dear. Only 6 head have come to hand from Aberdeen, and they have been disposed of at 6s. per 8 lbs. Shorthorns and other home breeds have experienced fair inquiry, the top price being 5s. 10d. to 6s. per 8 lbs. Foreign stock has sold at 5s. 2d. to 5s. 6d. per 8 lbs. From Lincolnshire, Leicestershire, and Northamptonshire we received about 850 shorthorns; from other parts of England about 250 various breeds; from Scotland 6 Scots and crosses, and from Ireland about 150 oxen. About an average supply of sheep was in the pens. Although not active, the trade was steady on the whole, and the best Down and half-breds were disposed of at 6s. 8d. to 6s. 10d. per 8 lbs. Lambs have sold quietly at from 6s. 6d. to 8s. per 8 lbs. Calves and pigs met a slow sale on former terms.

Per 8 lbs. to sink the offal.

s. d. s. d.	s. d. s. d.
Inf. coarse beasts 4 0 to 5 0	Pr. coarse woolled 6 2 6 6
Second quality 5 2 5 6	Prime Southdown 6 8 6 10
Prime large oxen 5 6 5 8	Lge. coarse calves 3 8 4 6
Prime Scots 5 10 6 0	Prime small 5 0 5 8
Coarse inf. sheep 4 4 4 10	Large hogs 3 6 4 0
Second quality 4 10 5 8	Neat sm. porkers 4 0 4 8
Lamb, 6s. 6d. to 8s. 0d., and Quarter old store pigs, 20s. to 20s. each.	

**METROPOLITAN MEAT MARKET.**—Monday, Aug. 14.—Limited supplies of meat have been on sale. The trade has been dull at our quotations.

Per 8 lbs. by the carcass.

s. d. s. d.	s. d. s. d.
Inferior beef 3 6 to 4 0	Middling do. 5 0 to 5 8
Middling do. 4 0 4 4	Prime do. 6 0 6 4
Prime large do. 4 8 5 2	Large pork 3 4 4 4
Prime small do. 5 2 5 4	Small do. 4 6 5 0
Veal 4 8 5 4	Lamb 6 4 7 0
Inferior Mutton 4 0 4 8	

**COVENT GARDEN MARKET.**—Friday, Aug. 11.—The supply of bush fruit has not been so large this week, and currants and gooseberries are nearly over. Hothouse grapes and pines still continue steady at former prices. Peaches and nectarines are a trifle cheaper. The general tone of the market is very steady. The potato trade is very heavy, and prices are lower by 2s. to 3s. per cwt.

**HOPS.**—**BOROUGH.**—Monday, Aug. 14.—Our market has been quiet during the past week, but owing to the firmness of holders' prices have been maintained at our recent currency. Those portions of the plantations which have been favoured with improvement, viz., about one-fourth, have made some progress; but the remaining three-fourths have gone worse, and, on the whole, we do not consider the prospects of the yield to have improved. The first pocket of this season's growth was sold by us on Friday last, at 17s. per cwt. Continental plantations are reported as slightly better. Recent advices from America are exceedingly discouraging, the vine being infected with lice. Prices in New York have advanced 4 to 5 c. per lb. Mid and East Kents, 3l., 4l. 4s., to 7l. 7s.; Weald of Kent, 3l., 4l., to 5l. 5s.; Sussex, 3l., 3l. 10s., to 5l.; Farnham and country, 4l. 10s. 5l. 5s.; Olds, 1l., 1l. 5s., to 1l. 10s.

**POTATOES.**—**BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS.**—Monday, Aug. 14.—These markets have been scarcely supplied with potatoes. The demand has been only to a moderate extent, at the annexed quotations:—Regents, 70s. to 85s. per ton; Kidneys, 60s. to 75s. per ton; Shaws, 40s. to 55s. per ton.

**SEED.**—Monday, Aug. 14.—We have nothing passing in cloverseed at present. New trefoil is now coming forward rather more freely, and fully maintains its previous values. New trifolium is in less request, and prices are against sellers. New rapeseed is in better supply, and finds buyers at last week's values. Canaryseed is again noted dearer 1s. to 2s. per qr.

**WOOL.**—Monday, Aug. 14.—The wool market has continued firm. A healthy business has been passing in the choicest qualities, and other sorts have also commanded a fair amount of attention; prices have ruled steady.

**OIL.**—Monday, Aug. 14.—Linseed oil has been quiet, but raps have been steady. For other oils there has not been much demand.

**TALLOW.**—Monday, Aug. 14.—The market is steady. Y.C., spot, 44s. per cwt. Town tallow, 42s. 6d. net cash.

**COAL.**—Monday, Aug. 14.—Market 3d. higher on last day's sale, and finish very firm. Hettons, 18s. 9d.; Hettons Lyons, 16s. 6d.; Hartlepool (original) 18s. 6d.; Hartlepool, 17s. 6d.; Holywell Main, 17s. 6d. Ships fresh arrived, 23 ships left from last day, 3—total, 26. Ships at sea, 25.

### Advertisements.

**SCHOLASTIC.**—**WANTED.** by an Under-graduate of London, 1st Division and A.A. of Oxford, accustomed to Tuition in a large School, a FRESH ENGAGEMENT as JUNIOR MASTER.—Address, J. W. Buck, Stoke Hall, Ipswich.

**WESTMINSTER CHAPEL,**  
JAMES-STREET (Rev. S. Martin's).  
On SUNDAY NEXT, August 20th, 1871, TWO SERMONS will be preached in the above Chapel by the Rev. W. S. FIELDEN, of Trinity Congregational Church, Walthamstow, formerly of Melbourne, Victoria.

Collections will be made on behalf of the Colonial Missionary Society.

Service will commence in the Morning at 11.0; Evening, at 6.30.

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**LEXANDRA PALACE.**—Notice to the Public. Intending Subscribers can obtain Free Passes admitting to the Palace and Grounds on application to the Secretary, stating name and address.

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14th in 1st Class in Classical Tripos, and 1st Chancellor's  
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For Prospectus and further information apply to the Head  
Master, at the School, or to the Secretary, the Rev. R.  
H. MARTEN, B.A., Lee, S.E.

The MICHAELMAS TERM will commence on  
THURSDAY, the 14th September.

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Salary, £400 per annum, and a capitation fee of £1 for  
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THOS. W. TURNLEY, Secretary.  
Bedford, August 12, 1871.

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Prospectus, with references and copies of Examination  
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accounts are now made up, 2,253 new Life Policies have been  
issued, assuring £388,545, the New Annual Premiums  
thereon being £11,866.

The Directors deplore the great loss which the Company  
has sustained through the removal by death (within a fortnight  
of each other) of the lamented Chairman and Vice-  
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the foundation of the Company, until the close of their lives,  
they discharged their duties as Directors with earnest fidelity.  
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tinue their premiums; or, if preferred, the cash value will be  
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